



WHITE  
*Lies*

Sara de Waard

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## *Note to Students, Teachers, Librarians, Admin & School Boards –*

*As an educator for many years, Sara de Waard has borne witness to the heartbreaking yet remarkable strength of her students, and firmly believes that their hardships should not be minimized. Instead, we should be declaring teen mental health a leading cause of concern in society and providing them with the support and resources needed to give them a fighting chance at life.*

*In White Lies, we are introduced to Missy, a girl who has experienced great loss and would rather push it all down than let it all out. Her sweet sixteenth is just around the corner, but with her mother in jail and her father's tendency to alcohol-induced rages, she doesn't expect anything special. It's not like her last three birthdays have exactly been cause for celebration. Her mom was arrested just before she could blow out the candles on her fifteenth birthday, and her beloved little brother died when she turned thirteen. Now birthdays are just a painful reminder of the void in their lives, and even three years later Missy can't help but feel responsible. If only she had walked her brother to school that morning, like she was supposed to...*

*To escape her guilt and horrid home life, Missy volunteers at a nearby store where she busies herself to shut out the emotions that her therapist is pushing her to feel. But then she meets Luke – her new classmate, a half-Native boy she cannot stop thinking about. Luke understands what she is going through more than anybody, but will Missy ever be able to let him in?*

*In White Lies, Sara de Waard delves into the myriad ways in which grief affects the mental health and emotional behavior of young teens, and does not shy away from the lived realities of parental abuse for so many students. Despite the book's subject matter, however, de Waard's debut novel offers no shortage of hope, love, and a belief in the importance of emotional healing.*

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*- Chapter One -*

# Asking the Impossible

*(first edition book pages 1-3)*

## VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) Define the word: contrived.
- 2) What is a "Newton's Cradle?"

## QUESTIONS:

- 1) List 3 things that you know about Missy so far.
- 2) Missy has a habit of saying things out loud that are different from her real thoughts. Find one example of this from this chapter.

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## - Chapter Two -

# Trick-or-Treat

(first edition book pages 4-10)

### VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) In your own words, what is "implicit memory?"
- 2) Choose ONE of the following to research, then write a few sentences about it: The Twilight Zone or My Little Pony or Freddy Krueger or Marilyn Monroe.

### QUESTIONS:

- 1) What kind of symbolism can you infer about the dad's costume vs. Missy's costume?
- 2) Find a metaphor or simile in this chapter.

In case you forgot - a simile is a figure of speech that compares something to something else and uses "like" or "as" (e.g., brave as a lion). A metaphor is also a figure of speech that compares two things but doesn't use like or as (e.g., his room is a pigsty or her hair is a rat's nest).

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## - Chapter Three -

# The First Day

(first edition book pages 11-15)

### VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) What are stilettos?
- 2) When a woman uses "Ms." in her name, what can you infer?
- 3) Define the word: reputation.

### QUESTIONS:

- 1) What do you know about Missy's appearance so far?
- 2) The imaginary conversation Missy has with her dad when he is on the couch is an example of sarcasm. In your own words, what is sarcasm?
- 3) Why do you think the teacher didn't make Luke move off of the back counter?

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## - Chapter Four -

# The Store

(first edition book pages 16-21)

### VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) Define the word: barter.
- 2) Choose ONE of these and research it. Write a few sentences summarizing what it is: Star Wars or Teddy Ruxpin or Atari or Valentino the Beanie Baby or Marvel or DC.

### QUESTIONS:

- 1) Why do you think Missy works at Ren's Relics for free?
- 2) Why do you think someone would pay \$25,000 for a Superman action-figure?
- 2) How did the author personify the cardboard boxes?

*In case you forgot - personification means to give human characteristics to nonhuman things.*

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## - Chapter Five -

# In Through the Out Door

(first edition book pages 22-25)

### VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) Define the word: dysfunctional.
- 2) Define the word: protocol.

### QUESTIONS:

- 1) What do you think Missy meant when she thought: 'I may look like china in a bull's shop, but I'm a matador of life's crap.'
- 2) Why do you think Missy can't say what's on her mind when she's talking to her mother?
- 3) What can you infer about Missy's relationship with her mother, after reading this chapter?

*In case you forgot - INFER means to read between the lines. It's when an author writes something, but you need to think about what they are really trying to say because it's deeper than meets the eye.*

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– Chapter Six –

# Great Shoes

(first edition book pages 26-31)

## VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) Define any **TWO** of the following words: punctual and/or precaution and/or arbitrary and/or excavate.

## QUESTIONS:

- 1) The author used the metaphor: “her staff is a well-oiled machine.” What does that tell you about Dr. Tandalay’s staff?
- 2) Why do you think that Dr. Tandalay won’t accept ‘a shrug’ as Missy’s answer?

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## - Chapter Seven -

# Sanitation Crew

(first edition book pages 32-37)

### VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) Define the words: dignity and disdain.
- 2) What is "Romeo and Juliet?"

### QUESTIONS:

- 1) What does it mean for something or someone to be pigeonholed?
- 2) Do you think Missy was being disrespectful to her teacher? Why or why not?
- 3) What does this chapter tell you about Missy's personality? Support your thoughts with specific details.

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- Chapter Eight -

## Do Something Nice for Yourself

(first edition book pages 38-45)

### VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) What are the following things: a TED-talker, E.T. and O.C.D?

### QUESTIONS:

- 1) On the surface, it appears that Ren is just talking to Missy about store inventory but what can you infer when he's talking to Missy about E.T. looking lonely?
- 2) Why do you think Missy finds it easy to talk to Ren about Luke?
- 3) What is symbolic about this line from page 43: "Hey Joey," I call out. He looks over at me and shields his eyes from the sunlight?

*In case you forgot - in novels, authors can use things like colors, the weather, bells, items, word choice, light, dark, etc. to mean something deeper than meets the eye.*

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## - Chapter Nine -

# Try Being Grounded

(first edition book pages 46-49)

## VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) Define the word: rhetorical.
- 2) Define the word: solace.

## QUESTIONS:

- 1) When Missy's father throws a box at her head, she thinks: 'It hurts, but I don't show it.' Why do you think she doesn't show it?
- 2) The author uses the simile: 'I head for the stairs like a salmon swims upstream,' on page 47. What do you think that means?

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## - Chapter Ten -

# Cannonball

(first edition book pages 50-54)

### VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) Define the word: *coerce*.
- 2) Define the word: *oxymoron*. Give an example of one.

### QUESTIONS:

- 1) What do you think the receptionist may have jotted down on his paper (pg. 51, paragraph 5)?
- 2) This is a big chapter for Missy's emotions. How did the author show that Missy was having an emotional breakdown? Give some specific details and paragraph numbers.

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## One-Third of the Book \*Check-in\*

*Big Questions to Check-in on your comprehension*

- 1) The author has dropped hints about Jeremy - who do you think he is and what do you predict may have happened to him?
- 2) The author uses some profanities (swear words) in the book. Why do you think authors do that sometimes? Do you think it adds to the story or takes away from it? Why?
- 3) You're learning more and more about Missy. What are 3 characteristics you can conclude of her at this point in the book?

*In case you forgot - characteristics are personality traits. They are NOT emotions. Emotions can change moment to moment but personality traits don't change unless the character is learning or growing or being influenced by something. Here is a link to some in case you're stuck:*

[Character Traits Help](#)

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## - Chapter Eleven -

# Absent Moms

(first edition book pages 55-60)

## VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) Define the word: *inhibitions*.
- 2) Define the phrase: *“in lieu of.”*

## QUESTIONS:

- 1) Find the alliteration on page 55, paragraph 2.
- 2) Missy doesn't appear to like Ms. FACS. In your opinion, does Ms. FACS deserve that? Why or why not?
- 3) What do you know about Luke so far?

*In case you forgot - alliteration is when an author uses the same letter or sound at the beginning of a string of words (e.g. the white wizard whistled...)*

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*- Chapter Twelve -**Luke's Deal**(first edition book pages 61-67)*VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) *What team is the Blue Jays?*
- 2) *Who is Larry Bird?*

QUESTIONS:

- 1) *Luke is confrontational and angry with his mother in the jail but when Missy says something negative about her, Luke says, "Don't talk about my mother like that." Why do you think he defends her?*
- 2) *Missy's decision to record Luke's mother's conversation is bold. What do you think compelled her to do it?*

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## - Chapter Thirteen -

# Under the Influence

(first edition book pages 68-74)

### VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) Define the word: portentous.
- 2) What is a 'solar plexus?'

### QUESTIONS:

- 1) Find the alliteration on page 68.
- 2) Missy thinks so casually: "no one has overtly expressed love to me in my life." **Do you think** love is a necessity for a child? Why or why not?
- 3) If you were Ms. FACS and you just watched that scene between Missy and her father, would you be concerned? Why or why not?

In case you don't know, FACS stands for Family and Children Services and it is their mission to "protect, support and strengthen the lives of children, youth, adults and families."

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*- Chapter Fourteen -**To Trust or Not to Trust**(first edition book pages 75-81)*VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) Define the word: replenish.
- 2) Define the word: retaliate.
- 3) What does it mean to be “a wallflower?” Are YOU a wallflower?

QUESTIONS:

- 1) The chapter is called **TO TRUST OR NOT TO TRUST**. Why do you think it is hard for Missy to trust people?
- 2) Luke keeps ignoring Missy’s plea to call her by her first name. Why do you think he keeps calling her Bell, instead of Missy?
- 3) Do you think high school gym should always give a segregated option (a class for boys and a separate class for girls)? Why or why not?

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## - Chapter Fifteen -

# Petty Theft

(first edition book pages 82-87)

### VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) What does the phrase "have a chip on your shoulder" mean?
- 2) What is a "convenience" store?

### QUESTIONS:

- 1) Missy has a childhood memory in this chapter. Why is it significant that she has a memory?
- 2) Do you think theft is theft or do you see a difference in the act if it's petty theft (small) like a bag of chips? Explain your reasoning.
- 3) What do you think of the banter between Missy and Luke?

\*Banter refers to how people talk to each other.

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- Chapter Sixteen -

# Luke Meet Ren

(first edition book pages 88-93)

## VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) What does the phrase “the elephant in the room” mean?
- 2) Define the word: inhibition.

## QUESTIONS:

- 1) The first paragraph of this chapter is important. What is happening to Missy?
- 2) Why do you infer Valkyrie was so angry (page 90)?
- 3) Describe what happened to Missy physically, when she shared personal details (page 93).

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## - Chapter Seventeen -

# The Beautiful People

(first edition book pages 94-100)

### VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) Research the CD cover image from either 'Nevermind' or 'Like a Virgin' and critique it in a few sentences. Do you like it? Do you think it's an effective CD cover image? Why or why not?

### QUESTIONS:

- 1) She was too young to realize it at the time but what did Missy encounter in her dad's basement (page 95)?
- 2) What is significant or symbolic about this "dancing" scene? Think deeply about it and explain your thoughts.

*In case you forgot - a scene can be more than meets the eye. Sure, on the surface, it looks like Luke and Missy are just listening to a song, then jumping around to it, but it is a deeper moment than that. Always try to think about the deeper meanings, the characters' journeys and theme reveals in scenes.*

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## - Chapter Eighteen -

# Can the Real Pink Dress Please Stand Up

(first edition book pages 101-108)

### VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) What is SnapChat?
- 2) Define the word: fathom.

### QUESTIONS:

- 1) How do you feel when there are anti-shoplifting stickers and warnings all over a fitting room?
- 2) Missy experiences some pretty intense emotions and physical effects in paragraph 6 on page 103. Why do you think that is?
- 3) Luke and Missy almost kiss. What stops them?
- 4) What are three things we know about Miss Maalouf so far?

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## - Chapter Nineteen -

# Check Up

(first edition book pages 109-113)

### VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) Define the word: deflection.
- 2) Define the word: ruthless.

### QUESTIONS:

- 1) How do we know that Missy is a daydreamer?
- 2) On page 111, why do you think Dr. Tandalay smiles?
- 3) On page 112, what did Dr. Tandalay mean when she wouldn't give Missy a prescription for sleeping pills and said, "This time, it's you who is keeping you awake?"

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*- Chapter Twenty -**Trying to Keep It Together**(first edition book pages 114-121)*VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) *If you owned a vintage Lego set, would you leave it sealed in its box or build it and put it on display? Why?*
- 2) *What is 'The Little Mermaid'?*

QUESTIONS:

- 1) *Why doesn't Missy want to go to English class?*
- 2) *What symbolism can you infer from Ren's conversation about the Beanie Babies and/or Missy's fixing of them?*
- 3) *In your opinion, were Missy's dad's actions in this chapter justified? Why or why not?*

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## Two-Thirds of the Book \*Check-in\*

Big Questions to Check-in on your comprehension

Answer 3 of the 4 questions:

1) The book has introduced various characters from the school system: Miss Maalouf, Ms. FACS, Mr. Mianni and a couple of teachers. Do you feel connected to any staff at your school? If so, explain. If not, why not?

2) In your opinion of Missy's life, would you classify it as a 'good' or 'bad' childhood/existence so far? Why?

3) If you were Dr. Tandalay, would you feel like you were making any progress with Missy at this point in the novel? Explain.

4) What do you think draws Missy to Luke, and/or Luke to Missy?

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*- Chapter Twenty-One -*

# Not What I Was Expecting

*(first edition book pages 122-130)*VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) Define the word: *ambiguous*.
- 2) Define the word: *facetious*.

QUESTIONS:

- 1) Why do you think Missy wants Valkyrie to lash out at her (page 122)?
- 2) What is symbolic about Missy's neighborhood having 3 of its 5 street lights burnt out?
- 3) How do you judge Missy's actions of writing the letter (e.g., Deceptive? Kind? Portentous? Brave?)? Explain why.
- 4) Why is it significant that Missy used one of Dr. Tandalay's techniques on Luke?

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## - Chapter Twenty-Two -

# Face It

(first edition book pages 131-138)

### VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) Who is Prince Eric?
- 2) What is KFC?

### QUESTIONS:

- 1) Why did the KFC manager give Missy another chance with another question?
- 2) Why do you think the job interview was so hard for Missy?
- 3) If you were a manager, knowing what you know of Missy so far in the novel, would you hire her for a job? Why or why not?

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## - Chapter Twenty-Three -

# Better Than a Prince

(first edition book pages 139-144)

### VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) Define the word: insubordination.
- 2) Define the word: seniority.

### QUESTIONS:

- 1) Missy mentioned she just feels like “a checkmark on [their] to-do lists.” What does that mean?
- 2) Contrary to what Missy thinks, Ms. FACS does care. How is this evident in this chapter (or other chapters)?
- 3) Why does Missy react the way she does, during her conversation with Miss Maalouf?
- 4) What was Luke’s grand gesture?

In pop culture, a “grand gesture” is an especially elaborate, showy action, typically to win someone’s love.

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## - Chapter Twenty-Four -

# In Session

(first edition book pages 145-154)

### VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) Define the word: *compassionate*.
- 2) What is a 'term of endearment'?
- 3) What does it mean to 'throw someone a rope'?

### QUESTIONS:

- 1) Do you agree with what Missy thinks about Dr. Tandalay's apology? Why or why not?
- 2) What is Dr. Tandalay referring to when she mentions "this time of year?"
- 3) Do you think Missy's dad's display of emotions in Dr. Tandalay's office was sincere... or not? Explain.

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*- Chapter Twenty-Five -**My Birthday**(first edition book pages 155-162)*VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) *What is a Timbit?*
- 2) *What is "The Great Gatsby?"*

QUESTIONS:

- 1) *Missy didn't go to Ren's store the night before. How do you think Ren felt about that?*
- 2) *Judging by Missy's reaction, how do you think she felt about the birthday gift from her father?*
- 3) *What has become Missy's birthday morning tradition and why?*

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## - Chapter Twenty-Six -

# The Candles Are Out

(first edition book pages 163-168)

## VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) What does it mean to “rain on someone’s parade?”
- 2) Define the word: credibility.

## QUESTIONS:

- 1) Missy’s mother is late to the visitation table on her daughter’s birthday. What did this tell you?
- 2) Missy determines she ‘won’ after the staring-contest visit with her mother. Why do you think she feels that?

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*- Chapter Twenty-Seven -**My Side of the Story**(first edition book pages 169-175)*VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) Define the word: constricting.
- 2) Define the word: intimidation.

QUESTIONS:

- 1) Even though he's on a budget, how did Luke try to make Missy's birthday special?
- 2) According to Missy's story, how did Jeremy die?
- 3) Why does Missy vow she will never ride a bike again?
- 4) How does Missy's dad betray her in this chapter?

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## - Chapter Twenty-Eight -

# Loss

(first edition book pages 176-179)

### VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) What is a "vantage point?"
- 2) What does it mean if someone is "bawling?"

### QUESTIONS:

- 1) When does what happened to Ren, hit Missy?
- 2) If Ren passed away on Monday afternoon, where was Missy when it happened?
- 2) What is symbolic about Missy's tears at the end of the chapter?

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*- Chapter Twenty-Nine -**Homeless**(first edition book pages 180-185)*VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) What is "curb appeal?"
- 2) What is "adrenaline?"

QUESTIONS:

- 1) What does Missy think about in order to muster some strength to smash the window?
- 2) How do we know that Miss Maalouf likes and trusts Missy?
- 3) Aahana makes Missy laugh and this is no small feat. Why do you think Missy was able to laugh in that moment, despite everything?

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## - Chapter Thirty -

# Wait, What

(first edition book pages 186-193)

### VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) Define the word: hospitality.
- 2) Define the word: aloof.

### QUESTIONS:

- 1) Why do you think it meant so much to Missy when Miss Maalouf said, "You're welcome to stay anytime..."
- 2) What did Missy offer to do in return, for being able to crash at Miss Maalouf's for a while?
- 3) What was in the envelope that Valkyrie gave to Missy?
- 4) Approximately how much money do you think Ren gave Missy?

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## - Chapter Thirty-One -

# Break On Through

(first edition book pages 194-199)

### VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) What is a "white lie?"
- 2) Define the word: egocentric.

### QUESTIONS:

- 1) Why is it significant that when there's only fifteen minutes left in Missy's appointment with Dr. Tandalay, she wishes there were more time?
- 2) Do you have a habit of telling white lies? Why or why not?
- 3) Part One: What has Missy believed all this time about her brother's death and her mother's incarceration?
- 4) Part Two: What is the truth about Missy's brother's death and her mother's incarceration?

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*- Chapter Thirty-Two -*

# A New Chapter

*(first edition book pages 200-204)*

## VOCABULARY/SCHEMA WORK:

- 1) *What does it mean to walk with “a skip in your step?”*
- 2) *What does “blue collar” mean?*

## QUESTIONS:

- 1) *Why do you think Dr. Tandalay reduced the milligrams in Missy’s prescription?*
- 2) *What can you infer about the ‘skunky, musky’ smell that permeates Missy’s dad’s house?*
- 3) *What grand gesture did Luke do in this chapter?*
- 4) *How does the author let us know that Missy will be okay?  
Give specific details.*

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# WHITE Lies

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## Final Projects/ Culminating Tasks

Complete *ONE* task from *EACH* section:

### Writing Task Section (choose one) –

**Choice One:** Study various back cover synopses from other books and then write your own for *WHITE LIES*. It should be at least three paragraphs.

**Choice Two:** Research the author endorsements for *WHITE LIES* (e.g. the quotes from Kelly Anne Blount and Eric Walters). Come up with three different endorsements of your own.

"You'll find yourself smiling, laughing, crying, and then cheering for Missy in this well-crafted, touching story."  
— Eric Walters, author of *The Rule of Three* and *The King of Jam Sandwiches*

"A powerful YA debut that tackles traumatic experiences with vivid characters and a smooth writing style that's sure to draw you in from start to finish!"  
— Kelly Anne Blount, *USA TODAY* bestselling author

**Choice Three:** Write a free-verse poem about a topic that is important to you. The poem must be at least 20 lines long and it should rhyme and have a rhythm to it.

– See the RUBRIC for this section –

or

– See the next page for the next section –

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# WHITE Lies

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## Final Projects/ Culminating Tasks

### Media Task Section (choose one) –

**Choice One:** Critique the front cover design of *WHITE LIES*. Determine if you approve of it and why/why not. Then, use a graphic design program and/or your own artistic skills to create an alternate cover.

**Choice Two:** Imagine you're the casting director for the film version of *WHITE LIES*. Determine which actors you would choose to play all of the roles and display your choices with pics, similar to an IMDb page.

**Choice Three:** Research various logos for stores. Then, design a logo for *Ren's Relics*. Write an explanation for your choices re: design, colors, style, font, etc.

– See the RUBRIC for this section –

or

– See the next page for the final section –

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# WHITE Lies

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## Final Projects/ Culminating Tasks

Reading Task Section (choose one and complete it in essay format) –

**Choice One:** Describe Missy's character arc throughout the novel. How did she start? How did she change? How did she end? Be specific with details, quotes, page numbers and paragraph numbers for your support.

**Choice Two:** There are various mental health strategies discussed in the novel (e.g. grounding yourself, mindfulness, positivity, boundaries). Choose one strategy to research and then determine how and when it was used in *WHITE LIES*. Be specific with details, quotes, page numbers and paragraph numbers for your support.

**Choice Three:** The novel is called *WHITE LIES* because of Missy's tendency to not speak her mind. Using very specific details from the story, determine how Missy's thoughts vs. her words/actions changed throughout the novel.

**Choice Four:** A possible theme for *WHITE LIES* could be: 'it takes a village.' Using very specific details from the novel (including page numbers, quotes and paragraph numbers), support that theme.

– See the RUBRIC for this section –

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# WHITE Lies

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## Rubrics for Final Projects/ Culminating Tasks

### Writing Task

Expectations	Level One	Level Two	Level Three	Level Four
<b>Word Choice:</b> use effective words for your purpose of writing	-limited range of words -misuse of vocabulary	- monotonous - often repetitious and/or inappropriate for purpose	- language is functional and appropriate for the purpose	- descriptive/broad range of vocabulary - word choice energizes the writing
<b>Sentence Fluency:</b> create rhythm, flow and variety in your sentences	- difficult to follow or read aloud - disjointed, confusing and/or rambling	-awkward constructions - common patterns and/or repetition in beginnings/endings	- generally in control - good variety in length and structure	- high degree of craftsmanship - excellent variation in sentence patterns
<b>Conventions:</b> grade-appropriate spelling, caps, punctuation and grammar	- numerous errors distract the reader and make the text difficult to understand	- limited control of conventions; reader can make out meaning	- good control of conventions; errors are few and minor	- exceptional control of conventions and/or complexity level

Student's Name:

Comments:

### Media Task

Expectations	Level One	Level Two	Level Three	Level Four
<b>Understanding the Media Text/Form</b>	- limited understanding of the original Media text/form	- satisfactory understanding of the original Media text/form	- clear understanding of the original Media text/form	- exemplary understanding of the original Media text/form
<b>Conventions &amp; Techniques of the Media Form</b>	- difficult to understand the student's Media because conventions were not adhered to	-the student's Media contained some of the expected components and may have had errors	- the student's Media included many of the expected components and conventions	- the student used all expected components and conventions in their Media
<b>Creativity/Effectiveness of Media Text</b>	- the overall Media creation was ineffective for its purpose	- the overall Media creation conveyed a meaning but not effectively or as expected	- the overall Media creation served its intended purpose and audience	- the overall Media was creative, original and served its purpose highly effectively

Student's Name:

Comments:

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# WHITE Lies

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## Rubrics for Final Projects/ Culminating Tasks

Reading/Essay Task (rubric adapted from ReadWriteThink.org)

Expectations	Level One	Level Two	Level Three	Level Four
<b>Focus:</b> a topic should be determined from the question.	The topic is not clear	The topic is somewhat clear but not well-related to the question	There is one clear topic that is related to the question	There is one clear, well-focussed topic that enhances the question
<b>Details:</b> use specific details, quotes, paragraphs and page numbers from the novel.	The main ideas are not clear and/or not existent.	Some main ideas exist and they are somewhat clear.	The main ideas are clear but are not well-supported by detailed information.	The main ideas are clear and are well-supported by detailed and effective information.
<b>Organization:</b> the essay style should include an introduction, a body and a conclusion.	There is no clear introduction, structure, and/or conclusion.	The introduction states the main topic and/or a conclusion is included.	The introduction states the main topic and provides an overview of the paper and/or the body is adequately detailed and/or a conclusion is included.	The introduction is inviting, states the main topic, and provides an overview of the paper. Information is relevant and presented in a logical order. The conclusion is strong.

Student's Name:

Comments:

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## Gr8 Cross-Curricular Connection Ideas

### MATH

*Retro Toy Assignment* - have the students research retro toy inventory then decide how much they need to sell it for to make a profit running a store with two employees, for a month (include cost of inventory, rent, hydro, water, gas and employee pay).

*Living Expenses Assignment* - have the students research the costs of the living expenses a single person pays to rent a property, pay the bills and survive for one month.

*Birthday Party Assignment* - have your students imagine that they are Luke with a budget of \$1000 and then have them research ideas & costs for a dream birthday party, perfect for Missy's 16th.

*Minimum Wage Assignment* - have your students research the cost for one year away at college or university then have them determine how many hours they'd need to work a minimum wage job during high school, to pay for that year.

### ART

- Critique the front cover design of *White Lies* with a detailed analysis and then design their own.
- What do the characters look like? Students can make a portrait of any *White Lies* character.
- Architecture - design Missy's house (exterior or interior) or design Miss Maalouf's house (ext. or int.).

### DRAMA

- Re-enact a scene/conversation from the book.
- Re-write a dialogue between Missy and her mom of Missy speaking her mind.
- Write a monologue from Jeremy's point of view in his afterlife, to Missy.

### MUSIC

- Do a research project on musical artist Marilyn Manson, Madonna or Nirvana.

### HEALTH

- Research healthy ways to combat stress.
- Do a pros and cons research paper on marijuana use, in people over 19.
- Research one of these disorders: OCD, anxiety, depression or PTSD.

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The author would love to hear your reviews of White Lies on [Amazon.ca](https://www.amazon.ca), on social media or through any book-selling vendor. She would also love for you to share your inspired White Lies art, media or reading responses by tagging her on your Instagram posts/stories.

If you would like your own copy of White Lies, you can purchase one anywhere books are sold including at <https://www.dcbyoungreaders.com/white-lies>. If you would like a signed copy of the novel, please email [saradwk@gmail.com](mailto:saradwk@gmail.com) to place your order. Signed copies take approximately 3-4 weeks to arrive and shipping is extra (while supplies last).

Teachers, if you would like to plan a visit from the author (virtual or in-person), please email her at [saradwk@gmail.com](mailto:saradwk@gmail.com) to inquire about price and availability. Visits can be catered to your grade and can involve a mental health & creative writing focus or a drama & screenwriting focus.

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