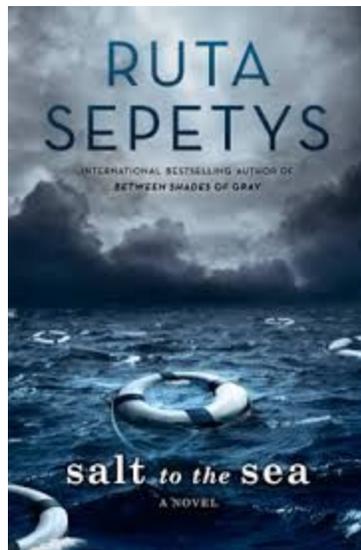


Park City High School 2018  
**Honors English 10 Summer Reading Requirement**

**Required Texts:** Honors English 10 students are required to purchase the following text and read it over the summer. If you qualify for a fee waiver, or can not afford to purchase the book, please see Mrs. Elliot in the counseling department at PCHS for a copy of the material. Or, you may check out a book from Mr. Parker at TMJH. Your Honors English teachers suggest purchasing the book at Dolly's Bookstore on Main Street in order to support our local business partners.

*Salt to the Sea*, by Ruta Sepetys



**Overview of Novel:**

*Salt to the Sea*, by Ruta Sepetys

In 1945, World War II is drawing to a close in East Prussia and thousands of refugees are on a desperate trek toward freedom, almost all of them with something to hide. Among them are Joana, Emilia, and Florian, whose paths converge en route to the ship that promises salvation, the Wilhelm Gustloff. Forced by circumstance to unite, the three find their strength, courage, and trust in each other tested with each step closer toward safety. Just when it seems freedom is within their grasp, tragedy strikes. Not country, nor culture, nor status matter as all ten thousand people aboard must fight for the same thing: survival. A tribute to the people of Lithuania, Poland, and East Prussia, Ruta Sepetys unearths a shockingly little-known casualty of a gruesome war, and proves that humanity can prevail, even in the darkest of hours.

### **Your Task:**

1. Purchase and read the novel.
2. You will need to annotate the book. Your teachers will have you turn in your book on the first day of class to check off annotations. You should include some kind of key to explain your system of annotations. When considering what type of information to highlight or note, consider the following:
  - a. Character development
  - b. Themes (Not limited to the following)
    - i. What does it mean to be human?
    - ii. What traits allow us to survive?
    - iii. What are the rules of war?
  - c. Symbols
  - d. Significant quotes
  - e. Important plot points
3. You will also need to complete a writing assignment in which you compose a formal letter to the author, Ruta Sepetys. If you are unsure how to write a formal letter, there is a template on Google Docs. The letter must include:
  - a. A paragraph introducing yourself
  - b. A paragraph noting a specific passage which you particularly enjoyed
    - i. Make note of the context
    - ii. What elements of style are used?
  - c. Conclude with two **specific** questions regarding the author's style, content, or research.
    - i. Ex. Why did the author choose to use lowercase letters for the character names on the chapters?
4. During the first week of school, you will be writing an in-class essay about the book. You will also take a comprehensive exam on the contents and major themes. Be prepared to engage in class discussions as well.

Good luck and enjoy the reading!

Ms. Hooker

Ms. Ellsworth-Nielson

Ms. Nikolai

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