***Al Capone Does My Shirts* Literature Circles**

**Chapters 6-10**

**Assignments:**

**Discussion Director:** Your job is to come up with 5 thought-provoking questions. Be sure to write down your questions, the answers to your questions, and the page numbers where the answers can be located or supported with specifics.

Types of Questions to Look for:

1 opinion question (FAT questions)

1 compare/contrast question

2 fact questions (basic fact questions from the novel)

1 prediction question

**Passage Picker:** Your job is to choose 4 passages that enable your group to really engage in a discussion about that specific section/passage. The following types of passages are ones you will want to find.

Write down their page #, the paragraph #, and give an explanation of why the passage you chose is of the selected type. In other words, why did you choose the passage?

Then, write a FAT question about the passage and answer either: Why did the author include this passage? Or What does this passage add to the story?

Types of passage to find for this section:

1 descriptive passage (include imagery and/or sensory details)

1 foreshadowing

1 passage that seems significant

1 passage with a simile, metaphor, personification

**Historian:** Your job is to examine an outside source (newspaper article, web site, encyclopedia, etc.) that have connections to the novel being read and share the information with the group. Share at least 2 interesting facts you learned from your source. Make connections to the novel (if possible).

Study: Autism—What you may want to consider: What is autism? Symptoms? How

was it treated during this time period? Now?

**If There is a Fourth Group Member:**

**Character Sketcher**: Your job is to write down 3 character traits of **Natalie**. Include the page, paragraph number, and an explanation or proof of the traits. Next, you need to state the character’s goal, problem, and solution or possible solution. Identify an object that represents this character (it can be an animal or a place or a thing). Draw a picture of this item and give solid evidence why this object is symbolic.

Who are the other characters we’ve been introduced to? Write 1-sentence descriptions of these characters.

**ALL TOGETHER (after reading):**

Your job is to:

1. Identify the setting of the novel—give details of time and places that might have changed
2. Identify the conflicts you have seen in the novel so far—internal and external (man vs. man, man vs. nature, man vs. animal, man vs. himself, man vs. society, present vs. future or vs. past).
3. Summarize in 3-4 sentences what has happened in each of these chapters.

**Writing Options:**

1. Write about a favorite toy of yours that brought you comfort just as Natalie’s buttons did. When did you get it? Why is it your favorite? Describe in detail.
2. Write about a time in your life when you felt pressure to do something you knew you shouldn’t. What was the situation? What did you do (or didn’t finally decide to do)? What were the consequences?