

# 8th Grade Summer Reading Assignment

## *The Day the Angels Fell* by Shawn Smucker

This summer, your assigned reading is *The Day the Angels Fell* by Shawn Smucker. This is a beautiful story that combines the very real process of grief with an adventure of what can happen when supernatural forces interfere with that process.

You are welcome to read this book with an audio version, but you will also need a print version for in-class work when we get back to school. This year, I do not have a specific assignment for hi-lighting / marking the text. You may mark or use sticky notes as you please (or, not at all...), but be prepared for assignments based on the following in the first week of our return.

- Do some research on the 7 stages of grief (briefly listed below). Trace these stages through the story. Be able to refer to specific story events that show what stage Samuel (the protagonist) is experiencing. Explain what forces help, and what forces hinder his process. The seven stages of grief are:
  - Shock and denial
  - Pain and guilt
  - Anger and bargaining
  - Depression
  - The upward turn
  - Reconstruction and working through
  - Acceptance and hope
- How is Samuel a hero in the way of 2 Timothy 1:7? Mark passages where we see him
  - motivated by love,
  - acting with courage, and
  - maintaining a sound mind (self control) throughout.
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- Mark passages where Samuel and Abra seem to balance each other out.
- Keep track of the supernatural elements and objects throughout the story. Be prepared to identify them as well as their impact on the story. How do they help or hinder Samuel in his quest?



Remember to bring your novel and a Brand New Composition Book (NOT A SPIRAL) on the first day of class.

Here is a link to buy the novel: [https://www.amazon.com/Day-Angels-Fell-Shawn-Smucker/dp/0800729102/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?dchild=1&keywords=day+the+angels+fell&qid=1620742005&s=books&sr=1-1](https://www.amazon.com/Day-Angels-Fell-Shawn-Smucker/dp/0800729102/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=day+the+angels+fell&qid=1620742005&s=books&sr=1-1)