

ACA's 12th Grade Summer Reading

The Magnolia Story by Chip and Joanna Gaines

About the Reading

“By renovating homes in Waco, Texas, and changing lives in such a winsome and engaging way, Chip and Joanna Gaines have become more than just the stars of HGTV’s show *Fixer Upper*. *The Magnolia Story* is the first book from Chip and Joanna, offering their fans a detailed look at their life together—from the very first renovation project they ever tackled together, to the project that nearly cost them everything; from the childhood memories that shaped them, to the twists and turns that led them to the life they share on the farm today.”

– Thomas Nelson Publishing Company



Reading Assignment

Read *The Magnolia Story* by Chip and Joanna Gaines and be prepared for the following assignment. You are not required to purchase your own copy so long as you are able to read the full text and take notes before the due date.

Writing Assignment

Instead of writing over the summer, you will complete an in-class essay on the second day you return to school. The essay will require you to utilize your knowledge and understanding of the book in your composition. The in-class essay will be graded as a “rough draft,” meaning that I will be far more interested in content than mechanics, though you will lose points for major and/or consistent grammatical issues.

It would benefit you to annotate the text and to keep notes on your reading. I would further encourage you to make notes on at least 2 of the following ideas throughout the book as you read:

- **Foil:** a character or speaker who contrasts with another character or speaker
- **Juxtaposition:** when the author deliberately places two contrasting things side by side in order to highlight the differences
- **Point of View:** the narrator's position in relation to the story being told
- **Metaphor:** a figure of speech that is used to make a comparison between two things that are not alike but do have something in common
- **God’s Providence:** God’s intervention, guidance, and sovereignty in our lives for the purpose of accomplishing His perfect will and design

Also consider how the authors utilize these ideas to tell the story and/or how these elements add to the telling of this particular story.

Due Date & Expectations

You must finish reading the book by the time you are to write your in-class essay, which will be on the second day of school (Wednesday, August 15th). Bring any notes you have taken to class with you on this day.

This in-class writing assignment is the *first* example of your work that I will see. It needs to be a reflection of your work ethic and ability. Be sure to carefully craft a thoughtful, analytical response to the question. In essence, you are writing this essay to show me that you read, understood, and analyzed the book and the authors' purpose.