

Directions: Complete the notes to prepare for your book talk.

Title of Book: The Selection

Author: Keria Cass

Genre: Fiction

Rating in Stars (1-worst, 5 best): 5

I chose this book because the overview of the book seemed interesting and made me want to read more. Also, I really loved that the book was a mix of a sweet love story and a complicated contest to become the prince's future wife. I also loved that I got so hooked to the book, I couldn't put it down.

In general, what was the book about?

A young girl named America who was deeply in love with a young boy named Aspen, but when the chance to enter a contest to become the Prince's new wife comes up her family and her love force her to enter, even if she doesn't want to be there. Once she is chosen to be in the contest she meets the Prince (Maxon) and gets to know him better than what she just saw in him from Tv. She gets very close to him and soon adores him. America is stuck between choosing Maxon or Aspen. She struggles as she gets to know Maxon more and more every day and pushes Aspen throughout the way.

What is one major conflict and/or problem in the book?

One major conflict in the book is when the Northern and Southern rebels come to attack the castle while the girls are there. One day while the royal family and the selection were eating breakfast the rebels came to attack and they had to be locked down in the dining room for a while until the rebels left. The rebels would kill people and destroy/mess up the palace. The rebels would also come back over and over again endangering the royal family and the selection.

Choose an important quotation from the book. Write the quotation, page number, and explain its importance to you, the text, and/or society.

My favorite quote from the book would be when America says, "If she cries, I want to wear pants for a week," page 137. This is when Maxon makes a deal with America that if her sister May cries as she eats a delicious pastry from the castle. If she does, America would be allowed to wear pants for a week, but if she doesn't she would have to go on a walk with Maxon. This is important to me because I think it's funny that America could ask for anything but she wishes to wear pants for a week. In the castle the girls have to wear dresses all the time and the girls would not be able to wear anything other than dresses.

What was the best or most memorable part of this book?

The most memorable part of the book is when Maxon and America share their first kiss. They shared it on a beautiful balcony, while they had simple conversations. I really liked this part of the book because it overwhelmed me with emotions about how happy America must be feeling, but how in the bottom of her heart she must be feeling so sad that she wasn't with Aspen.

What are some of the major themes (fiction) and/or central ideas (nonfiction) of this book?

One major theme in this book is trust. In the book, when Maxon has to trust America that she loves him (even if she is debating that in the bottom of her heart there is still some feeling for Aspen) and when America has to trust that Maxon truly loves America and doesn't have any feeling for the other girls in the competition. It always comes back to trust in the end. Another important theme of the book would be love. Throughout the whole book, there are many parts where America has feelings of love for Aspen and Maxon. She just has to figure out who she most truly loves and who most truly loves her.

Is this a book you would recommend to others? Why or why not?

Yes because this is a very well written and well detailed book and also has a very interesting and heart warming story. But I would most likely recommend this book for mainly readers from 7th grade and up because there are a few inappropriate scenes in this book and violent scenes as well.

Rubric for Grading

4	3	2	1
Book notes demonstrate synthesis and engagement with the text.	Book notes demonstrate an understanding of the text.	Book notes demonstrate some understanding of the text.	Book notes demonstrate a limited understanding of the text.
Book notes are thorough, thoughtful, and complete, showing strong effort.	Book notes are complete, showing effort.	Book notes are mostly complete, showing some effort.	Book notes are incomplete and/or show minimal effort.