

## Summer Reading Assignment 2017-2018: English II Honors

- **Novel:** choice of dystopian-themed novel from attached list OR *Ender's Game*

Welcome to English II Honors! This year our study will be focused on different themes in literature, and each of our four units will represent a different theme. During the course of each unit, we will read two larger works (either novels or plays) and several shorter works (short stories, poetry, and nonfiction articles). This assignment will act as an introduction to our first unit, and it will also showcase your critical reading, analysis, and writing abilities for your teacher.

The first unit of the year is Dystopia, so your summer assignment is to read a dystopian novel from the list provided on page 2 of this packet. If you do not want to find or buy a novel from the list, you may check out a copy of *Ender's Game* from the school library (there are enough copies for every student). Regardless of the novel chosen, **every student is required to complete a Folder Review Project for a novel**. Complete instructions for the folder project, as well as an example, are attached.

**The Folder Review Project is due on the first day of school.** The only exceptions will be for those students who recently moved to or transferred to Zachary. Late points will be deducted if you do not turn in the Folder Review Project on the first day of school. \*Students who transfer into an honors class after school starts will also be expected to complete this assignment.

You will also be required to take the AR quiz for the novel you chose sometime during the first few days of school. This quiz will count as a class grade and will also count towards your AR grade for the first six weeks. Be prepared to take this quiz.

Please feel free to email Ms. Ducote ([kaitlin.ducote@zacharyschools.org](mailto:kaitlin.ducote@zacharyschools.org)) or Mrs. Southall ([megan.southall@zacharyschools.org](mailto:megan.southall@zacharyschools.org)) at any time over the summer if you need help with this assignment. We look forward to seeing your work and meeting you in August!

## Dystopian Novel List

\*Students should choose ONE of the following OR read *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card, which is available in the ZHS Library for check out

<b>Book Title</b>	<b>Author</b>
<i>Red Queen</i>	Victoria Aveyard
<i>Red Rising</i>	Pierce Brown
<i>Steelheart</i>	Brandon Sanderson
<i>The Selection</i>	Kiera Cass
<i>Uglies</i>	Scott Westerfeld
<i>The Maze Runner</i>	James Dashner
<i>Legend</i>	Marie Lu
<i>Matched</i>	Ally Condie
<i>Delirium</i>	Lauren Oliver
<i>Wither</i>	Lauren DeStefano
<i>Unwind</i>	Neal Shusterman
<i>Animal Farm</i>	George Orwell
<i>Gone</i>	Michael Grant
<i>Variant</i>	Robison Wells
<i>Brave New World</i>	Aldous Huxley
<i>Feed</i>	M.T. Anderson
<i>House of the Scorpion</i>	Nancy Farmer
<i>The Handmaid's Tale</i>	Margaret Atwood

\*You **DO NOT** have to buy your own copy of ANY of the listed books or *Ender's Game* in order to complete the Folder Review Project. However, having your own copy might be beneficial since you would be able to annotate/highlight in the book, which might make the project easier.

\*\*If you do not wish to buy a book, make sure to check the EBR public library system for availability (most are available both as books and electronically).

## Elements of Dystopian Literature

- government, religious/philosophical or technological control
- information, independent thought, and freedom are restricted
- use of propaganda to control society
- unique/rebellious protagonist dissatisfied with society that struggles to escape
  - struggles to escape
  - questions the existing social and political systems
  - believes or feels that something is terribly wrong with the society
  - helps the audience recognize the negative aspects of the dystopian world
- fear of the outside world
- dehumanized state of life
  - emphasis on powerlessness/helplessness of citizens to change their world
- regressed society (standard of living is worse than current one)
- illusion of utopia
- citizens perceived to be under constant surveillance
- worship of figurehead or concept
- citizens expected to conform to uniform expectations
- controlled education/knowledge
- distrust/distaste of nature
- futuristic or post-apocalyptic setting
- back story of how society became dystopian
- social class division
- obscure/distorted sense of family
- realistic elements currently in place
- pollution
- focus on state/group over self (what is best for all emphasized over what is best for individuals)
- traditionalism

## Folder Review Project

### Necessary Materials:

1. manila folder
  - you may use either a letter or legal-sized folder
    - note: a legal-sized folder will make it easier to fit all required elements
  - you may choose to use a colored folder rather than a plain/normal manila one
2. computer
  - all sections of project must be typed (no, they may NOT be handwritten)
  - research for project
3. printer and colored ink
  - all pictures MUST be printed in color for full points
  - must print out typed sections of project to attach to folder
4. glue\* (preferably a stick rather than the liquid type)
  - you will need some method to attach printed sections of project to folder
  - you can absolutely choose to get creative and use something other than glue, such as tape, staples, string, or some other method of attaching sections
  - keep in mind that a portion of your points comes from the neatness of the final product
5. scissors
  - to cut out printed sections and pictures
  - you may choose to use craft scissors with designs on the edges to make your project more interesting/visually appealing
6. visual appeal (remember that you get points for making the folder visually appealing)
  - use markers, colored pencils, or crayons to decorate your folder around the typed and printed sections
  - glitter is okay as long as it is not used excessively and is well-secured to folder
  - 3-D designs are acceptable as long as the folder can be folded closed and stacked without ruining them

### Instructions for Completion (see example project at end of packet for more clarity):

- Front of Folder
  1. **picture of novel cover** (must be printed in color)
  2. **summary/review of the novel**
    - Rules:
      - *Size*: picture should be small enough to accommodate the 3-4 paragraph review
      - *Font*: Times New Roman, size 11 or 12
      - *Spacing*: May be 1.0., 1.15, or 1.5 line spacing.
      - *Rating*: Must include rating out of a possible 5 stars (1 is the worst, 5 is the best)

- Must include:
  - Should begin with a one-sentence summary of the book, which is more difficult than you might think to do well.
  - This should be followed by a 3-4 paragraph summary of the book, which should include a basic summary that hits the highlights of the story (like what you would see on Amazon.com or the back of a book) and an outline of the basic conflict and information about the main character.
  - Finish with a personal review that justifies the Star Rating (did you like it? why or why not? what makes it different/interesting? what did you think about the main character? what did you think was important?)
  
- Inside Left Page of Folder and Inside Right Page of Folder
  1. **Analysis of Dystopian Elements**
    - Rules:
      - *Font:* Times New Roman, size 12
      - *Spacing:* May be 1.0, 1.15, or 1.5 line spacing.
    - Must Include:
      - Choose **at least 5** elements of dystopian literature from the list on page 3 and provide a **detailed and complete analysis/explanation (at least 2-3 paragraphs EACH)** of how each element applies to the novel you read.
      - Use examples from the novel (**including direct quotes that are properly cited**) to explain how each element is represented in the book. Remember that direct quotes should be enclosed within quotation marks. Properly cited means that the quotes should be followed with the author's last name and the page number you found the quote on. EXAMPLE: "This is a direct quote from the book that I am using to explain how this dystopian element appears" (Ducote, 5).
      - I would recommend using flags or sticky notes to mark appearances/examples of elements in the novel as you read. You can go back after you finish to choose five or six, and you'll already have the examples/proof marked.

- Back Cover of Folder

1. **Book Recommendations**

- Rules:
  - *Font*: Times New Roman, size 12 (you may use size 11 if you need more room)
  - *Spacing*: May be 1.0, 1.15, or 1.5 line spacing.
- Must Include:
  - Think of other novels that you've read that somehow relate to your novel of choice. You must **recommend 2 or 3 novels** based on the idea of "if you liked this book, then you would LOVE these books".
    - The recommended novels DO NOT have to be dystopian literature; they simply must be related in some way to the novel you read for this project.
    - You can only recommend books that YOU HAVE READ! If you have trouble with this section, email me: [kaitlin.ducote@zacharyschools.org](mailto:kaitlin.ducote@zacharyschools.org).
  - Each recommendation must include: a picture of the book's cover (printed in color), a rating (out of five stars), a summary of the book (should be at least 2 paragraphs), and a short explanation of how it relates to your novel of choice (one paragraph).

## Folder Review Project Graded Elements

### *\*Basic Project Requirements (65 pts.)*

- **Front Cover:**
  - appropriately-sized color photo of book cover
  - star rating for the book
  - one-sentence summary of the book
  - 3-4 paragraph summary of the book
  - personal review that justifies the star rating
- **Inside Left and Right Pages:**
  - at least five elements of dystopian literature chosen
  - 2-3 paragraph analysis/explanation of each element
  - examples from novel given for each element (including direct quotes that are properly cited)
- **Back Cover**
  - 2-3 related novels recommended
  - color photos of each novel cover
  - rating given for each novel
  - 2-3 paragraph summary for each novel
  - 1-paragraph explanation of how recommended novel relates to novel read for the assignment

**Points Earned for Basic Project Requirements: \_\_\_\_\_ out of 65**

### *\*Aesthetic and Mechanical Project Requirements (15 pts.)*

- **Visual Appeal and Neatness**
  - Ten points will be based on how visually appealing the overall folder is due to creativity and overall neatness.
  - The apparent amount of time and effort put into the project will also be taken into account.
- **Quality of Writing and Analyses**
  - Ten points will be based on the quality of writing and analyses. There should be very few spelling and grammatical errors; there should also be few formatting errors. Writing that is bad and/or sloppy will lose points.

**Points Earned for Aesthetic and Mechanical Project Requirements: \_\_\_\_\_ out of 15**

**Points Earned for Folder Review Project: \_\_\_\_\_ out of 80**

## Folder Review Project: Important Thoughts to Consider

1. Please expend every effort to make this Folder Review as visually pleasing as possible. This means that you should strive for neatness when attaching the printed pages to the manila folder. This is included on the project rubric, which means that points are attached!
2. Plagiarism of **any** section will result in a **zero** for the **entire** project. Plagiarism is not okay, and there is no excuse that you can offer that will be acceptable.
  - This means that if you put hours of work into this project, but get tired and decide to copy and paste just **one paragraph or even one sentence**, you will still get a **ZERO** for the whole assignment. Cheating is cheating. A zero on this project will have a hugely negative impact on your class grade.
  - Please understand that I (Ms. Ducote) have read every single book on the list offered to you for this project. This means that I will be able to tell whether or not you actually read the novel you choose for the project. This, in turn, means that taking any action other than actually **READING** the book (seeing the movie, reading online summaries or essays, having a friend give you a rundown of the book, etc.) will **NOT** be sufficient in order for you to receive a high grade on this project. Please do not try to sneak something past me. It will not work, and I will find the attempt insulting.
3. This project is the very first example of your work that your teacher will see. First impressions are important. You have chosen to take English II Honors, and this is your chance to prove that you have what it takes to not only succeed but to excel in this class.
  - You should consider this project as a reflection of yourself as a student, which means that sloppy, incomplete, and/or poorly executed work will not reflect well on you.
  - You have the **ENTIRE** summer to complete this project. **DO NOT** wait until the last minute. Give yourself time to do the absolute best job that you are capable of doing. I would recommend giving yourself **at least three weeks** to fully complete the project (this includes reading the book). Rushing through the work will not produce the best results.
4. It is absolutely vital that you read **ALL** instructions very carefully so that you do not exclude necessary material or do something incorrectly. The project will be graded using the rubric provided (page 7), and you will be held to high expectations. There is **NO** excuse that will pardon incomplete or incorrect work.

**EXAMPLE FOLDER**

**REVIEW PROJECT:**

***THE SELECTION* BY**

**KIERA CASS**

**\*\*if you choose to read this novel as well, I would suggest NOT coming anywhere close to copying my work, since that counts as plagiarism as well\*\***

## Novel Cover and Summary for FRONT of Folder



**Rating:** 4 out of 5 Stars

The premise of this book can be summarized in a single (albeit complex) sentence:

Television’s popular love-connection extravaganza “The Bachelor” meets Suzanne Collins’ hit dystopian *The Hunger Games* trilogy, the difference being that while the Selected girls are all vying for the heart of Prince Maxon, no bloodshed or violence is involved (except in the cases of the rebel attacks on the castle).

America Singer is a female lead that most teenage girls will have no problem understanding, because she is just like them. She has dreams and goals that she works to achieve, her most important being to marry Aspen, the boy of her dreams. The problem is that this futuristic society is

organized into a caste system, with all citizens belonging to one of eight levels. The Ones are the Royal family and clergy; Twos are celebrities, politicians, and soldiers; Threes are educators, doctors, scientists, and professionals; Fours are farmers, chefs, property owners, and real estate agents; Fives are musicians, singers, and all other artists; Sixes are secretaries, housekeepers, wait staff, and other servants; Sevens are construction workers, farmhands, and other outdoor workers; and the Eights are the mentally and physically challenged, addicts, runaways, and homeless. Your profession is dependent on the caste in which you were born—there is no divergence. A change in caste is rare: if you somehow become famous and rich, you can buy your way up (as America’s older brother is desperately attempting) or a girl can marry into a different caste.

The Selection offers thirty-five girls (one from each district of the country) the chance of a lifetime: not only to change their caste, but to live in the royal palace and compete to become a One, the bride of Prince Maxon Schreave of Ilea. America, a Five (and a talented singer), is probably the only girl in the country not thrilled to enter the “random” selection process, which is why she is shocked and horrified when she becomes one of the Selected girls. What about Aspen and all of her plans for their future? She doesn’t want to be a princess and live in a palace! She plans on getting herself sent home as soon as possible and putting an end to this hiccup in her life. Until, that is, she actually meets Prince Maxon and begins to question her preconceptions and plans, realizing that the life she dreamed of cannot compare with the future that’s now possible.

I really enjoyed the novel and have grown to really like America, despite her insecurities and teenage angst. I’m looking forward to seeing how her story continues in *The Elite*. Which future will she choose for herself: Aspen and home or Maxon and Princess of Ilea? I think that she needs to do a lot of soul-searching to figure out who she really is and what she really wants out of her life. The man and future that she chooses will all depend on what she wants for herself. One of the many aspects of this novel that I like so much is that I’m honestly not sure which direction America will take; the possibility of her choosing Aspen over Maxon is real, as is the chance of Maxon not choosing her. The unpredictability makes this a unique novel, and an exciting series. The only reason it did rate five stars is because I felt the writing was below par in some places.

## Inside Left and Right Pages of Folder

### Elements of Dystopian Literature

- **government, religious/philosophical or technological control**
  - The country of Ilea is a monarchy, ruled over by a royal family descended from Gregory Ilea, the founder of the country. The rule of the royal family, specifically the king, is absolute: his word is law. A Selection is held every time a Crown Prince is ready to be married, with the idea that every Ilean queen was once an ordinary citizen who now has a part in the ruling of the country. Every Selection is supposedly random, allowing every single maiden in the country (think Cinderella and the ball) the chance to be one of the thirty-five girls chosen to compete for the hand and heart of the Crown Prince, along with the title of Princess of Ilea.
  - The citizens are not represented in the government. The only representation/participation by regular citizens is through The Selection, when an ordinary girl becomes the next queen. This is more for show than substance, however, because the queen only has the power that the king allows her to have.
  - The word and actions of the king are not and cannot be questioned. There are rebel factions that attack the palace and raid the districts on a frequent basis, but they are never very successful. The royal family uses propaganda to turn the citizens against the rebels—they do everything they can to make citizens believe that the rebels are evil and only want to cause destruction.
- **information, independent thought, and freedom are restricted**
  - Society is divided into a caste system, so the education and freedom of citizens are dependent upon the caste into which they were born. It is very difficult and very rare for a person to move up in the caste system, so your options in life are limited to fit the confines of your caste. For example, if you are born a Five (like the protagonist, America) then you must choose some kind of artistic pursuit (music, singing, painting, performing, et cetera) as your profession. Your salary is dependent on your skill in your chosen profession; you must become adequate/competent in some area of that profession if you wish to provide for yourself and your family. If you cannot perform sufficiently, then you may drop in the caste system, which is one of the worst things that can happen to someone.
  - It is strongly discouraged, and so is extremely rare, for anyone to marry outside of their caste due to the rigid division between the eight castes; the people of the higher castes look down upon the

people in the lower castes. This means that the vast majority of citizens must choose their future spouse from within their own caste and region.

- Travel is limited. Most people are born, live, and die in the same town, or at the very least, the same region. There are thirty-five regions of the country, but travel between them is limited, due to it being very expensive, which means only those of the higher castes can afford it.

- **unique/rebellious protagonist dissatisfied with society that struggles to escape**

- America is very different from most other teenage girls in Ilea. She is NOT happy about the Selection, because she thinks the whole process is incredibly stupid, and wants nothing to do with it. Her distaste for the process is largely due to her secret love for Aspen, the son of a family friend who is a Four, one caste below her. America fully intends to marry Aspen, meaning she would move down a caste, which she has almost no qualms about.
- Once America arrives at the Royal Palace, her uniqueness is evident in comparison with the other thirty-four Selected girls. It is clear that she is meant to stand out in order to show the falseness of the entire process, as well as to highlight the differences between how the other girls (normal citizens) feel about everything in comparison to herself. Her relationship with the Prince Maxon and the “princess training” all of the girls must receive also serve to expose/highlight all of the things that are wrong with the society as a whole.

- **back-story of how society became dystopian**

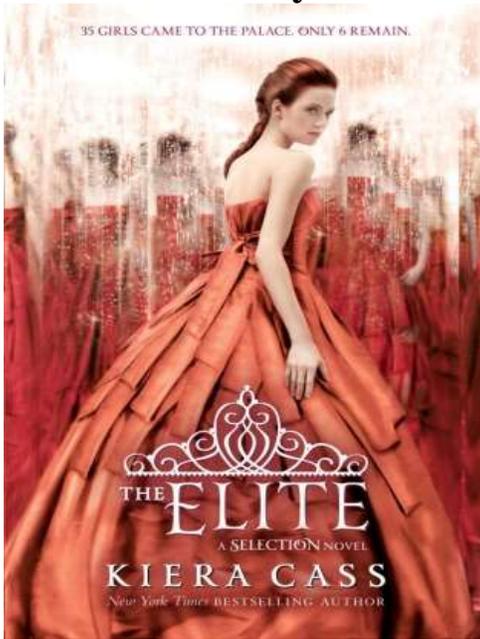
- The narrative of the country’s origin is scattered here and there throughout the story. The basic narrative is that The United States was overtaken by/lost everything to China due to the insurmountable national debt. At some point Russia invaded and war ensued. Gregory Ilea was an ordinary man whose bravery and determination made him a prominent military leader. He managed to marry into the existing royal family, and won the war, thus saving the country which was renamed Ilea in his honor.
- There are hints given that this official history might not be the whole story behind the founding father and the country’s origins. After all, this history is sanctioned by the royal family, so why would they promote and teach anything that would not be beneficial to them? The diaries of Gregory Ilea that Maxon shows America, as well as the actions of the current king, Maxon’s father, provide strong hints that everything is not as it seems. The reader is led to wonder exactly what the rebel’s goal is, and why they are rebelling in the first place.

- **social class division**

- This society has a sharp division between social classes in the form of a caste system, which is organized into eight levels. Although all possible professions are not included, the following breakdown of the occupations assigned to each caste should make the idea of each division clear: The Ones are the Royal family and clergy; Twos are celebrities, politicians, and soldiers; Threes are educators, doctors, scientists, and other professionals; Fours are farmers, chefs, property owners, and real estate agents; Fives are musicians, singers, theatre performers, and all other artists; Sixes are secretaries, housekeepers, wait staff, and other servants; Sevens are construction workers, farmhands, and other outdoor workers; and the Eights are the mentally and physically challenged, addicts, runaways, and the homeless.
- You must become skilled in one of the professions that belong to the caste into which you are born; this means that someone born a Four cannot choose to become a doctor. A change in caste is very rare: if you somehow become famous and rich, you can buy your way up (as America's older brother, Kota, is desperately attempting) or a girl can marry into a different caste. A girl choosing to marry into a lower caste (like America intended at the beginning) is almost unheard of in this society. Men cannot marry into a higher caste.
- The salary and standard of living available to you are directly dependent upon the caste into which you are born. If you are born a Seven, there is very little chance for you to earn anything above the most minimal of wages, meaning that you will likely be in the lower class for your entire life.

## Back Cover of Folder

If you liked *The Selection*, then you might also enjoy...



**Novel:** *The Elite*

**Author:** Kiera Cass

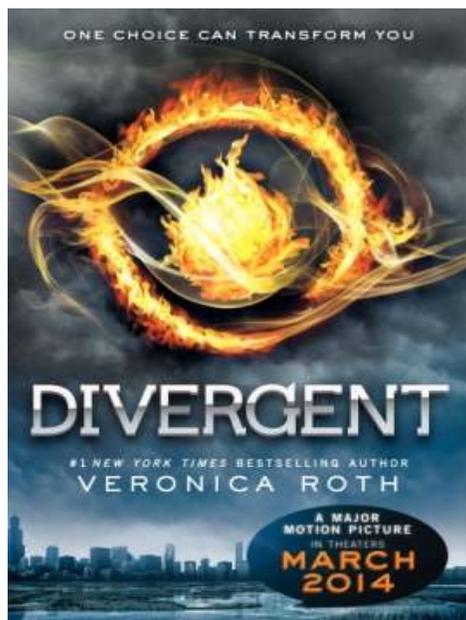
**Rating:** 4 out of 5 Stars

The next book in Cass' trilogy is a must-read for anyone who loved *The Selection* and is desperate to see what happens next! America's story continues, with the original group of thirty-five now narrowed down to the top ten girls: The Elite. The stakes are higher than ever for these ladies, all of who want nothing more than to win the heart of Prince Maxon...and the crown that comes with him, naturally. Maxon is becoming more and more decisive as he feels the pressure to choose a bride increasing, which leads to the top ten very quickly becoming the top six. With everyone in the country watching and throwing their support behind their favorite candidate for princess, plus the constant and

increasing threat of rebel attacks on the palace, the girls, like Maxon, are feeling the pressure weighing heavily on them, although some handle it better than others.

America is again the odd-girl-out, since Aspen's appearance at the palace as one of the newly-recruited guards makes her question all of her feelings and her relationship with Maxon. It doesn't help that Maxon, in an attempt to be considerate, assigns Aspen to be America's personal guard, knowing only that he is from the same hometown as America, NOT that he was the guy that she was madly in love with before *The Selection*. The close proximity and continual run-ins with Aspen cause America to waver in her convictions. Does she really love Maxon more than Aspen? Does she really want to be the future queen of Ilea? Which man, which future will make her happiest? Join America on her journey with the other Elite to figure out the answers!

The only reason this book did not receive a full five-star review is because I found America to be SUPER annoying, stupid, and whiny more often than not. She got on my last nerve to the point where I actively disliked her as a character. As an adult reader, I think my reaction to her responses is very different than how most teenage readers will respond, since they will be more sympathetic and understanding of her problems. I had to constantly remind myself that she is only seventeen and that she is quite naïve due to a sheltered existence. Also, she's going through some intense and emotionally difficult situations. Despite all of this, I am honestly not sure that I want her to end up with Maxon; I liked him far better than I liked her by the end of the novel.



**Novel:** *Divergent*

**Author:** Veronica Roth

**Rating:** 5 out of 5 Stars

Like *The Selection*, this is another first book in a trilogy, has a Dystopian theme, and the main character is a teenage girl. Set in the city of Chicago, far in the future after the United States was ravished by years of war, the city and its immediate boundaries are the entire world of the characters. Society is divided into five factions, which were formed based on the ideas of what the founding citizens perceived to be the root of the world's problems. Those who believed that conflict caused all problems become Amity, who celebrate and promote peace and friendship; those who view selfishness and greed as the cause of the country's downfall became Abnegation, who celebrate selflessness and the idea of valuing the whole over the individual; those who saw ignorance as the cause of strife became

the Erudite, who value knowledge above all else; those who claimed fear and cowardice as the cause of the fall became Dauntless, who value courage and strength; the final faction, Candor, belongs to those who felt that it was deceit that led to the downfall, which is why they promote truthfulness in all aspects of life.

Unlike *The Selection*, the people of this society are not forced to remain in the faction into which they were born. They are raised and taught within the faction they are born into, but during their seventeenth year, all citizens take an aptitude test which helps them to choose in which faction they will spend the rest of their life. Beatrice is born and raised in Abnegation, but is not happy because she does not feel as though she belongs. The problems begin when her aptitude test results are "inconclusive", which is very rare and very bad, since this indicates Divergence. Keeping her results a secret, Beatrice chooses to leave Abnegation in favor of Dauntless, thus becoming Tris.

The bulk of the novel follows Tris as she goes through the brutal Dauntless initiation process. For those only interested in stories that include romance, don't despair! The relationship between Tris and the revered Dauntless instructor known as Four will be enough to keep you very interested in seeing what happens next. Did she choose the right faction? Will she make the cut? Will she become a true member of Dauntless? What does it mean to be Divergent? What will happen to Tris if someone else finds out? What's Four's story? Will he and Tris have a happy-ever-after?

This book richly deserves a full five out of five stars because it is impossible to stop reading with nonstop action, thrilling exploits, terrifying events, and plot twists galore! You really have no idea what will happen next, and the unpredictability sets you on-edge, which makes this book very hard to put down. There is little chance that you will be able to resist reading the second and third books (*Insurgent* and *Allegiant*), because you simply HAVE to find out how it all ends!