

May 2026

Dear Rising Sophomore,

Because summer reading is an effective way to maintain your reading and thinking skills, you can keep your skills sharp with the aid of a great summer reading book. The assigned book for this level is *Chasing Brooklyn* by Lisa Schroeder.

To give you a little preview, here's a description from goodreads.com:



Brooklyn's boyfriend, Lucca, died a year ago in an accident. She's still grieving and unable to move on. Then their friend Gabe dies from an overdose. Gabe starts haunting Brooklyn in her dreams. She doesn't understand why he is and why it's not Lucca visiting her in her dreams.

Nico is Lucca's brother. Nico has turned to running to try to escape his sorrow from his brother's death. After Gabe dies, Nico starts receiving messages from Lucca, telling him to help Brooklyn. But Nico doesn't understand how he's supposed to help her. What they both learn is that it is in helping one another that they can face their grief and begin to heal.

Chasing Brooklyn is a story about finding oneself again after losing someone you love.

This book is written in the style of a **verse novel**. Books come in many different styles and forms, just like your favorite music or streaming shows. Most of what you've read is probably prose, but a verse novel tells a story through a series of connected poems. It's an opportunity to explore another kind of storytelling!

Summer Reading Assignment:

The summer reading novel will be incorporated into the first unit of the school year. In order for our class to get off on the right foot, a close read of the novel will be necessary.

1. **Annotate (take notes in) your copy of the book.** This active reading prepares you for class discussions and maintains helpful notes that remind you about key details. You should highlight and write notes about passages you find interesting, questionable, or particularly moving.
2. **Complete the charts on the following pages** to help you engage in active reading. This assignment is due on the first day of class.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Frantz

PLEASE NOTE: This is the summer reading assignment for the **Academic level**. If you make a schedule change to a different academic level, you will need to find the correct summer reading assignment on the school website.

ASSIGNMENT for Reading of *Chasing Brooklyn*

Complete the chart below. Do this in your **own handwriting, not on the computer.**

BROOKLYN

Haunting: Find 3 examples of Brooklyn being haunted in her dreams by Gabe.

pg. #	Summary of what happens in the dream/nightmare	A key line from the passage that stands out to you

Grief: Find 3 specific examples of Brooklyn struggling with her grief over Lucca's death.

pg. #	Summary of scene/passage that shows grief	A key line from the passage that stands out to you

pg. #	Summary of scene/passage that shows grief	A key line from the passage that stands out to you

Healing from Grief: Find 2 specific examples of changes in Brooklyn that show she is moving forward and starting to heal from her grief and sadness.

pg. #	Summary of scene/passage that shows improvement/ healing	A key line from the passage that stands out to you

NICO

Haunting: Find 3 specific examples of Lucca communicating to Nico.

pg. #	Summary of what happens with Lucca's ghost communications to Nico	A key line from the passage that stands out to you

Helping Brooklyn: Find 2 specific examples of ways that Nico tries to be a friend to Brooklyn and help her through her grief over Lucca.

pg. #	Summary of scene/passage that shows Nico helping Brooklyn	A key line from the passage that stands out to you