

COURSE TITLE: Contemporary Literature (**Grade 12**)

OPTIONAL TEXT: *My Name Is Memory*

AUTHOR: Ann Brashares

GENRE: Fiction

SUMMARY: Brashares' novel taps into the growing appetite for romances thwarted by extraordinary tricks of time. Virginia high-school student Lucy is inexplicably drawn to classmate Daniel, but when he claims to have known her before, a thoroughly unsettled Lucy flees. Gradually, Lucy learns the impossible truth: Daniel has been chasing her through ages and lives for 1,200 years. In chapters that alternate viewpoints between the two lovers, past and present, the couples' unrequited desire builds, even as a murderous soul threatens their reunion. The coming-of-age sensibility will feel familiar to fans of Brashares' best-selling *Traveling Pants* series. Readers tantalized by the possibilities of past lives and soul-mate connections will devour this unabashed romance, which has the heart-pounding pace and tone of a beach novel, and hope for the sequel hinted at in the open ending. (Amazon.com)

REQUIRED STUDENT ASSIGNMENT (DUE THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL):

Select a work of art or photography that complements the text's point(s) of view, characters, themes, and/or symbols. Consult sources of your own choice, or utilize Mark Harden's Artchive at www.artchive.com to locate material. Bring a copy of your artwork to class on the first day of school, along with a typed t-chart delineating six to ten connections between the artwork and the text to present and discuss during literature circle sessions.