

Summer Read Book for 2009

Warriors Don't Cry

ISBN 9781416948827

Melba Patillo Beals was one of the nine students who was allowed to attend an all-white high school in Little Rock, Arkansas in 1957 as a result of Brown vs. Board of Education. This book documents her first year at the school. This integration was covered by national news, but Melba's first-hand account of her experiences gives a human touch to this highly-political situation. Many people were against this integration and physically gaining entry to the school was Melba's first hurdle. The NAACP escorted her and the other students, but the angry crowds would not allow them to enter the school. Arkansas' governor dispatched the National Guard to keep the black children out of the white school. The U.S. courts intervened, and Melba was admitted into the school. Once inside, Melba faced continuous threats of violence, acts of violence, and racial slurs under the guidance of teachers and school administrators. Because Melba's safety was jeopardized, a special military unit, the 101st Airborne Division, was sent into school. Melba was still abused even with soldiers providing personal protection. Melba uses journal entries and newspaper headlines to deliver her memoir. Segregation, peer pressure, and the division of the country over the issue of integration really come alive through her words. Reviewer: Julie Hendrix

(summary by www.bn.com)

All Valley Lutheran High School students are asked to **read the book** before the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year. Parents are also encouraged to read the book and discuss it with their student. Students are required to **write a short essay** based upon the book that will be turned in at the beginning of the school year. The topic options will be on the website and mailed with the summer mailing.

Incoming ninth graders may purchase a book for \$6 on the night of their placement testing.

Students wishing to order a book at a reduced rate (\$6) should bring a check and the form at the bottom of this page into the office by May 29. There is a box on the counter for collecting book orders.

Any student may also purchase their book at Barnes & Noble, Waldenbooks, or online. The retail cost of the book is \$7.

Contact Lisa Meyers (989-790-1676 or lmeyers@vlhs.com) with any questions.

Name(s) of student: _____ Current grade _____
_____ Study hall hour _____

Number of books ordered: _____ Amount of check enclosed _____

If a new student for the 2009-10 school year, please give a contact name and phone number or email. You will be notified when the book is available.

Name _____ Phone # or email _____

Please make all checks out to **VLHS**.

