

Your assigned reading for Summer 2020 is *The Green Ember* by S. D. Smith.

[Link to buy book.](#)

My advice for every summer reading assignment is for you to purchase the book right after school gets out (so it's a ready reminder...), but don't actually start on the assignment until about 3 weeks before school starts. Of course, it's totally up to you, but just know that you will need to be completely finished with the book by the first day of school. (YAY! I CANNOT WAIT!!)

Also, please know that you are welcome to use a Kindle e-reader edition if you like, as long as you have a device OTHER than a phone to bring into class for in-class assignments.

This book is also available as an audio book, which you are welcome to use, too, alongside your reading. I caution against having the audio as your only book, because you will need to have access to the text for citations in future assignments.

As you read, be aware of these questions. Hi-light the passages that answer them. You do not have any kind of writing assignment. However, be ready to talk and write about the book on our first day back to class.

We will have a detailed TEST over the book during the first week of class.

QUESTIONS: Hi-light passages that correspond to the following:

1. Why does Picket dislike Smalls? How does he show his feelings? Are these emotions legitimate or based in jealousy?
2. How do Heather's family react to her gift of storytelling? How does she feel about sharing this gift in Cloud Mountain? What gives her courage to share this gift?
3. Who betrayed King Jupiter? Who betrayed Prince Jupiter Smalls?
4. What is the conflict that turns up at Picket and Heather's door at the beginning of the book, and how does it relate to their family history?
5. There are many mentors in the book. How is each of them effective at helping another character learn? Consider Smalls, Doctor Zeiger, Uncle Wilfred, Emma, Maggie Weaver, or anyone else you like.
6. This book has plenty of action scenes. Hi-light your favorite 3.
7. What are the roles of eavesdropping and gossip in this story? Do you think they help Picket and Heather get closer to the truth or hurt them by leading to misunderstandings?

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## VOCABULARY

I sent your Vocabulary test booklet home in your bags. You should have your vocabulary book, also. At the back of the test booklet is the END OF THE YEAR test. Now, if we were in school,

you'd be taking that test this week. Instead, I will be giving that test in the first few days of school when we get back. You are not REQUIRED to do any vocabulary work or study over the summer. Really, you don't have to. But, it might help you prepare for the test we'll take at the beginning of the year, so I'll leave that up to you :)