

# Clarksville Academy Middle School Summer Reading 2023



All sixth graders will read *Count Me In* by Varsha Bajaj.

This year's summer reading selections across all grade levels (3-12) are situated within a common theme of building a community of belonging and acceptance.

In our school-wide effort to promote a deeper understanding of this theme, CA English teachers have chosen titles for summer reading to promote robust discussion of literature that explores the complexities of building a strong and productive community.

The 6th grade summer reading selection, *Count Me In*, an uplifting story, told through the alternating voices of two middle-schoolers, in which a community rallies to reject racism.

## **Assignments:**

- **Purchase a copy of the book.**
- **Complete the required reading assignments. (See packet)**
- **Bring your book and assignments on your first day of class.**
- **If you have questions, please email Alicia McQueen, [amcqueen@clarksvilleacademy.com](mailto:amcqueen@clarksvilleacademy.com)**

**Instructions: For each question provide a response using 2-3 sentences.**

1. In Chapter 1, Karina says “Chris Daniels and I are like separate planets orbiting in the same galaxy.” What do you think she means? Have you felt the same toward someone in your life?
2. How does life change for both Karina and Chris when Papa/Mr. C moves in with Karina and her parents?
3. Chris describes his and Karina’s houses like two chocolates in a box. But he says, “On the inside they have different centers.” How are the Chopra and Daniels families similar and different? Do you have friends from different cultures and countries? What are some of the traditions or aspects of your life that are not known to your friends?

4. As Karina gets to know Chris, she discovers that Chris is not at all like she expected him to be. Have you had a similar experience? Why is it good to sometimes give people a second chance?
5. Teachers can transform lives. Mr. C makes math accessible to Chris. Have you had a teacher who changed the way you think about learning? Do you wish Mr. C was your teacher?
6. As we get older, sometimes we begin to see things differently than our elders. While Karina's parents and grandfather love Karina, they at first don't understand her sharing the pictures on social media. Is this difference generational? What other factors contribute to these differences?

## **Final Analysis**

In two paragraphs (4-5 sentences per paragraph), imagine Karina and Chris as freshmen in high school. Are they still friends? What are they doing?