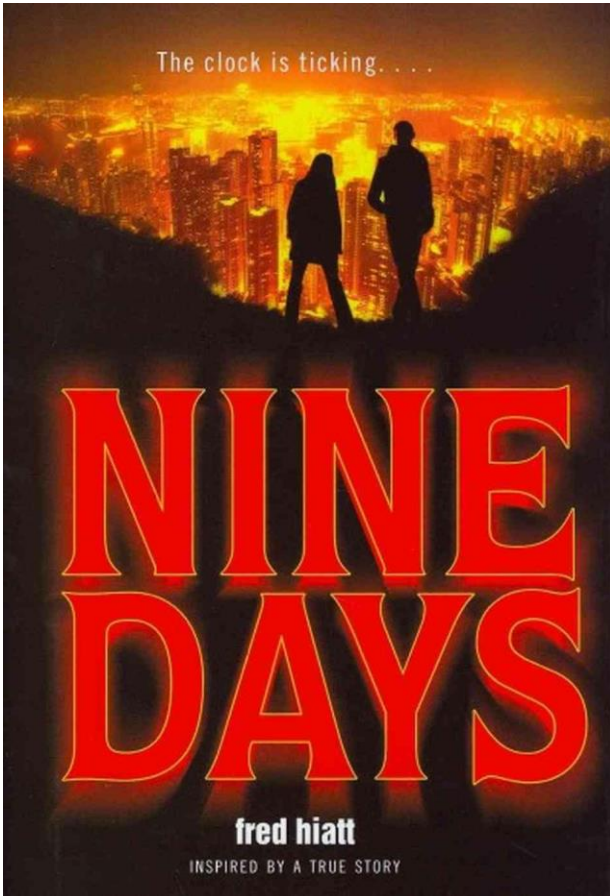


NINE DAYS

BY FRED HIATT
DISCUSSION GUIDE



Before Reading

1. Is there a cause in our world that you would be willing to sacrifice your freedom and/or your life to help change or promote?
2. Nine Days is loosely based on a true story. Research the true story of Ti-anna Wang. You can find an article and interview here:
http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/daughter-of-imprisoned-chinese-activist-inspires-nine-days-by-fred-hiatt-a-book-about-their-plight/2013/04/05/67b339d0-9e03-11e2-a2db-efc5298a95e1_story.html

During Reading

1. Why do you think Ti-anna's father was willing to risk arrest by going to Hong Kong?
2. Even though Radio Man betrayed Ethan, Ti-anna, and her father, how much courage did it take for him to try to warn the kids? Does this attempt to right past wrongs redeem him as a character?
3. What do you think the judge will think about Ethan's essay?

After Reading

1. Now that you have read the novel and researched the true story, how do you feel about the way the author portrayed the story?
2. Is there a true story you would like to write about?

Activity

Many adults don't recognize teenagers' abilities to change the world. However, you have just as much influence if not more to make a difference in society. For example, a high school sophomore created a new test that tested for pancreatic cancer. His test was more accurate and cost less than the one used by medical facilities. He not only won his science fair and a scholarship, but he potentially saved lives of thousands of people because of early detection of pancreatic cancer. Anything is possible if you set goals and follow your passions. What causes would you like to help? Do you have a plan to follow through? Make a short bulleted list that includes your cause and steps that you could possibly take to make a difference in our world.

