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*The Book Thief* Final Project Reflection

*The Book Thief* is an amazing book full of action as well as heart. In order to cover the full spectrum of emotions that I felt during this book, I decided to write three separate journals.

First off, as you can see, the three journals reside inside of a wooden book box. I have painted the words “The Book Thief” onto the box to represent how Liesel first learned to write/read words. At the beginning of the book, death says that he “saw the book thief three times” (Zusak, 5). I have painted each of the words white, black, and red, respectively, to represent the three colors death remembers seeing Liesel with. I feel like this was a good use of symbolism because it shows three important points in the story.

I decided to write three journals, each with a few entries in them, for Liesel, Max, and Death. I did this to show the many different perspectives that are in the book. For Liesel’s journal, I chose the color green. I did this because, in my opinion, Liesel represents new growth; she is like a sapling which eventually grows into a towering tree of knowledge. For Max’s journal, I chose the color grey. I felt that grey best represented Max’s life during the holocaust because his life was sad, boring dismal, not unlike a rainy day. And what color is the sky on a rainy day? Grey. For Death’s journal, I chose the color black. When I think of death, I think of all of the Halloween costumes I have seen over the years. Every single person who dresses as death wears a long, black robe; it was only natural to choose black as the color of Death’s journal.

In Liesel’s journal, I wrote a three-letter entry: I hate the *Führer*. These words resonated within me when I read them. I guess they gave me hope; hope to believe that Liesel was smart enough not to be sucked in by all of the Nazi propaganda.

In Max’s journal, I wrote a lot about being alone. One of my greatest fears is of being alone, but to be alone in a world of people out to get me? I can’t even imagine. So I decided that since Max was alone and hiding, he might as well talk to his journal. I tried to incorporate feelings of helplessness and terror into the journal entries in order to add a sense of despair to the journal entries.

In Death’s journal, I decided to write each entry in a different color. Throughout the book, Death talks about his fascination with colors. I felt that incorporating these colors would give the journal a bit of personality. For each entry, I paired it up with a color that represents the mood at the time. By doing this, I feel as if I have given Death a personality.

If I were to re-read this book again, I would pay much closer attention to the character of Rudy in the hopes that one day I may know enough about his life to write a journal for him as well.