"The Right Fight"

AUTHOR: Chris Lynch  
PUBLISHER: Scholastic  
COPYRIGHT: 2013  
GENRE: historical fiction

SUMMARY:

Roman is a young man who loves baseball and his country. He is playing in his last season of semiprofessional baseball in 1941. Roman leaves the world of baseball to become a soldier in the days before World War II. The book takes the reader from the start of the war to the invasion of Italy. Roman is a member of General George Patton’s U.S. 2nd Armored Division. This is the first book in the series "World War II".

BOOKTALK:

If you enjoy stories about courage under pressure you will want to read The Right Fight by Chris Lynch. Roman loves baseball but he loves his country even more. Roman enlists in the Army before the United States enters World War II. Go with Roman from basic training to the deserts of Tunisia to the invasion of Italy. Through reading this book, you will experience what it could have been like to be in George Patton’s U.S. 2nd Armored Division. Pick up this book today!

AUTHOR’S BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH:

http://www.epicreads.com/authors/chris-lynch/60/

Chris Lynch (born July 2, 1962) is an American writer of books for young people. His works including Printz Honor Book Freewill, Iceman, Gypsy Davy, and Shadow Boxer—all ALA Best Books for Young Adults. He holds an MA from the writing program at Emerson College. He teaches in the Creative Writing MFA program at Lesley University. He lives in Boston and in Scotland.

Other books written by the author:

Cyberia (2008)  
The Big Game of Everything (2008)  
Me, Dead Dad and Alcatraz (2005)  
Sins of the Fathers (2006)  
Inexcusable (2005)  
The Gravedigger's Cottage (2005)
Who the Man (2002)
All of the Old Haunts (2001)
Freewill(2001)
Gold Dust(2000)
Extreme Elvin(1999)
Iceman(1994)
Vietnam: I Pledge Allegiance(2011)
Vietnam: Sharpshooter (2012)
Vietnam: Casualties of War(2013)
World War II: Dead in the Water (2014)
Little Blue Lies (2014)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Describe how the concept of heroism changed in this book.
2. How does Roman deal with the emotions of anger, sorrow and worry and fear in the book?
3. Discuss the changing roles of women in World War II. Were you surprised with the role that Hannah was doing?

LITERARY LINKS OR ACTIVITIES

Language Arts and Social Studies

- Design a paper doll of Roman and Hannah. Do research on the clothing of World War II.

- Brainstorm a list of questions to use to interview characters in the story. Have students choose a character to interview. Students will write a blog or magazine article about the character.

- Mark a world map of the battles and places Roman in the book.

- Write newspaper headlines from Roman (battle) and Hannah's (home front) perspectives.

6.RL2.1 Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what a text says
explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

6-8LH.2.1 Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.

6-8.LH.4.1 Integrate visual information (e.g., charts, graphs, photographs, videos, or maps) with other information in print and digital texts.

- Mark a world map of the battles and places Roman goes in the book.

6.RL2.1 Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what a text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

6-8LH.2.1 Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.

- Discuss how the lives of the characters in the book compare or contrast with the lives of families and soldiers fighting today in Afghanistan.

6-8.LH.5.1 Write arguments focused on discipline-specific content.

6.RL4.1 Compare and contrast the experience of reading a story, play, or poem with listening to or viewing an audio, video, or live version of the text, including contrasting what they “see” and “hear” when reading the text with what they perceive when they listen or watch.

- From the book *Great World War II Projects You Can Build Yourself* by Sheri Bell-Rehwoldt create a Victory banner. (Information available from [http://nomadpress.net/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/NP_ActivityPrintOut_VictoryFlag_WW2.pdf](http://nomadpress.net/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/NP_ActivityPrintOut_VictoryFlag_WW2.pdf)

6-8.LH.4.1 Integrate visual information (e.g., charts, graphs, photographs, videos, or maps) with other information in print and digital texts.

**Challenging Words**

- maneuvers(42)
- mongering(44)
- turret(44)
- carnage(51)
- marauding(3)
- undeterred(59)
pectoral(59)
abysmal(60)
scapular(74)
armada(78)
motley(79)
jettisoned(81)
reverberation(83)
dissemination(83)
flotilla(92)
skirmishes(147)
pulverized(170)
mistral(186)