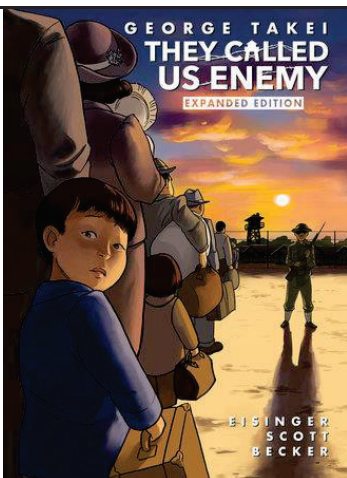


Proposed Core Literature Titles

The following Summary is provided by the California Department of Education's "Recommended Literature List". And the top three Google searches of the book title and author name (e.g., title by author) that produced a description of the title.

They Called Us Enemy

Grade Level: 9 CP/H



Title: They Called Us Enemy: Expanded Edition
A Graphic Novel - Memoir
Author: Takei, George, Scott, Steven
First Published: 2019

Proposed Grade Level: 8
Lexile Measurement: GN680L

California Department of Education, Recommended Literature List:
<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/cr/rl/>

N/A

Descriptions From Top 3 Google Searches:

<https://www.amazon.com/They-Called-Enemy-George-Takei/dp/1603094504>

 **Will Eisner Comic Industry Awards** Winner, 2020

New York Times Bestseller!

A stunning graphic memoir recounting actor/author/activist George Takei's childhood imprisoned within American concentration camps during World War II. Experience the forces that shaped an American icon -- and America itself -- in this gripping tale of courage, country, loyalty, and love.

George Takei has captured hearts and minds worldwide with his captivating stage presence and outspoken commitment to equal rights. But long before he braved new frontiers in *Star Trek*, he woke up as a four-year-old boy to find his own birth country at war with his father's -- and their entire family forced from their home into an uncertain future.

In 1942, at the order of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, every person of Japanese descent on the west coast was rounded up and shipped to one of ten "relocation centers," hundreds or thousands of miles from home, where they

would be held for years under armed guard.

They Called Us Enemy is Takei's firsthand account of those years behind barbed wire, the joys and terrors of growing up under legalized racism, his mother's hard choices, his father's faith in democracy, and the way those experiences planted the seeds for his astonishing future.

What does it mean to be American? Who gets to decide? When the world is against you, what can one person do? To answer these questions, George Takei joins co-writers Justin Eisinger & Steven Scott and artist Harmony Becker for the journey of a lifetime.

<https://www.goodreads.com/en/book/show/42527866>

[Nominee for Best Graphic Novels & Comics \(2019\)](#)

A graphic memoir recounting actor/author/activist George Takei's childhood imprisoned within American concentration camps during World War II. Experience the forces that shaped an American icon -- and America itself.

Long before George Takei braved new frontiers in *Star Trek*, he woke up as a four-year-old boy to find his own birth country at war with his father's -- and their entire family forced from their home into an uncertain future.

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https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/They_Called_Us_Enemy

They Called Us Enemy is a 2019 graphic novel that is a collaboration by George Takei, Justin Eisinger, Steven Scott, and Harmony Becker. It is about his experiences during the internment of Japanese Americans in World War II. It is published by Top Shelf Productions.

The writing was done by Takei, Eisinger, and Scott, with Becker creating the grey-scale, manga-inspired illustrations.

The memoirs focus on Takei's time as a child taking up the bulk of the work, and the "harsh reality" and "minutiae of daily life" occur back and forth. Throughout the book, "Takei describes how these early experiences in the camps shaped his subsequent coming of age both in the theater and in politics."

A Spanish-language translation of the book was released in June 2020, as well as an expanded edition in July 2020 including bonus material.