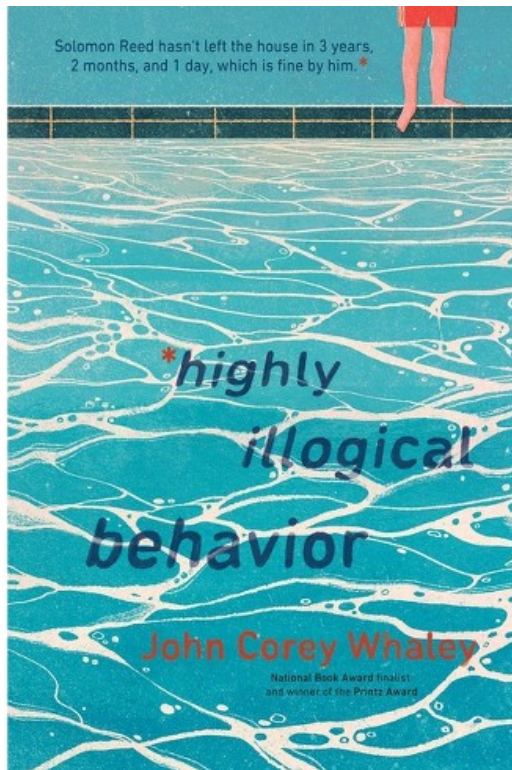


Longleaf School of the Arts
9th grade English Summer Assignment



Title: HIGHLY ILLOGICAL BEHAVIOR-John Corey Whaley

Book can be purchased [HERE](#) (\$10.99)

If you need assistance in acquiring this book, please email: kelly@longleafschool.com

Questions: Contact Dawn Kelly, Assistant Head of School: kelly@longleafschool.com

Due Date for completed assignment: August 16, 2023

ABOUT THE AUTHOR John Corey Whaley has a master's degree in Secondary English Education from Louisiana Tech University. Having grown up in Springhill, Louisiana, he began writing as a child and dreamed about writing full time for the five years that he was a public school teacher. He currently lives in California where he is a successful writer of contemporary realistic novels for young adults. His first novel, *Where Things Come Back*, won him the Printz Award in 2012. His second book, *NOGGIN*, was a California Book Awards Young Adult Finalist in 2014 and a finalist for the National Book Award for Young People's Literature in the same year. Biographical information taken from the author's website at <http://johncoreywhaley.com>

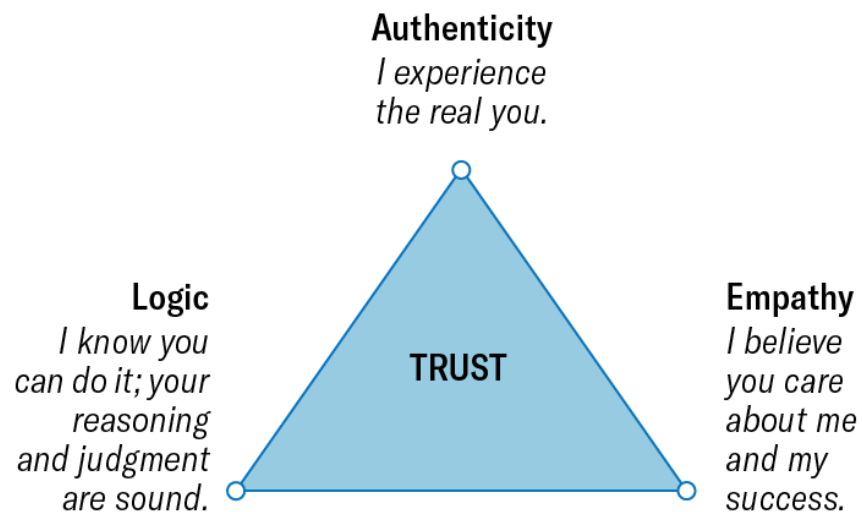
PRE-READING:

Before you begin reading, *Highly Illogical Behavior*, define the word **AGORAPHOBIA** and do a little research:

1. What are the symptoms of agoraphobia?
2. What are some risk factors of agoraphobia?
3. What are some treatment options?

Define **RECLUSE** and describe, if any, the relationship between agoraphobia and recluse.

PREWRITING:



From: "Begin with Trust," by Frances Frei and Anne Morriss, May–June 2020

HBR

Think about the word *trust*. Answer the following:

- What makes a person trustworthy?
- How do you gain a person's trust?
- Do they think they are trustworthy?
- Is it important to be trustworthy?

- Examine the graphic above for the Trust Triangle. In your own words, what do these terms mean to you?

Authenticity:

Logic:

Empathy:

GUIDING QUESTIONS for Reading: (adapted from State Library of Louisiana)

Directions: Answer all of the questions in your own words referencing the book to support your answers.

1. Solomon has not left his house in a very long time. Describe his daily life and why he has not left his house in years.
2. Solomon's parents put him in therapy. Describe this process and what each outcome is. Do you agree with their decision to discontinue therapy? Why or why not?
3. Both Solomon and Lisa see the world very differently. Describe the difference between how Lisa takes on the world and how Solomon sees it. Are there any specific circumstances that lead each of them to this way of thinking?
4. Describe Solomon's relationship with his parents. Reference **specific details** from the book.
5. Do you agree with Lisa's plan to get into college? What would you have done differently?
6. Solomon's grandmother is very special to him. Describe their relationship and use specific details from the book. In what ways does his grandmother help him?
7. Why is Solomon's mother so eager for him to accept Lisa's offer? What could it mean that he is willing to see another person outside of his family?

8. Describe Lisa and Clark's relationship using specific examples from the book. How does Lisa show if she really cares for Clark?

9. Both Lisa and Clark develop special friendships with Solomon. *Describe these friendships and determine which one is the better friend.* Prove your answer using specific details from the book.

10. Solomon's holodeck room is very special to him. How does this room help him overcome his fears? Why do you think this room works for him?

11. What do you do to relax when you are feeling stressed? Why do you think doing this helps you as Solomon's holodeck helps him?

12. Compare and contrast Lisa's relationship with her mother and Solomon's relationship with his parents. Why do you think these relationships work the way that they are? Use specific details from the book.

13. Think about the relationship between Solomon and Clark. They help each other realize so much about each other. Describe their relationship using specific details from the book. What do they learn from each other and what do they teach each other?

14. If you were in Clark's position, would you tell Solomon about Lisa's plan for her scholarship essay? Why or why not?

15. What kind of friend is Janis? Why do you think she reacts so strongly to Lisa spending so much time with Solomon? How do you think you would react in the same position with your best friend?

16. What circumstances lead to Lisa's fear that Clark is falling in love with Solomon? Why do you think she is so ready to believe her friend's statements rather than Clark's?

17. In chapter 23, Solomon talks about feeling guilty for his fear and lists several reasons. List at least two reasons he feels guilty, **referring specifically to the text**. Why is he thinking about this at this particular point in the story?

18. Solomon faces a gigantic fear by stepping outside into the backyard and then by leaving the house to go see his grandmother in the hospital. Think about a time when you have had to overcome fear. Were you able to do it? How did you feel afterward?

19. Think about the title of the book. What does the title tell you about each character? How do these characters exhibit highly illogical behavior?

20. Would you want to be friends with Solomon, Lisa, or Clark? Pick one character and use specific details from the story to explain why you would (or would not) want to befriend them.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES (adapted from State Library of Louisiana)

Directions: Please choose **ONE** of the following extension activities to complete.

1. **English Focus:** Evaluate Lisa's motivation for getting to know Solomon. Then write the essay she would have written to get into Woodlawn in Baltimore, Maryland. The essay was to be titled *My Personal Experience with Mental Illness*. Make sure to write the essay in **first person as if you are Lisa**. Take on Lisa's persona when writing the essay.
2. **Arts Focus:** Use paint, colored pencils, pastels, or collage to **create a poster to advertise the book in the school library**. Be creative and don't give anything away from the book.
3. **Geography/ Social Studies Focus:** Solomon's grandmother moved from Louisiana to Los Angeles, California. Plan a road trip from Raleigh, NC to Los Angeles, California. You cannot drive it all in one day. You will have to eat and spend the night along the way.

Plan Your Trip!

Their plan can be a labeled map, written directions, or a combination of both. You can use a printed map or draw one.

The following websites might be able to help you:

<https://roadtrippers.com>

<http://tripmaker.randmcnally.com>

<https://www.myscenicdrives.com/road-trip-planner>

Answer:

1. Where will you stop along the route and why?
2. What will you see there?
3. How long will each part of the trip take?
4. Where will you eat?
5. What things will you see at each stop along the way? (tourist attractions you will visit, Must-See places in each stop)

4. **Health & Physical Education Focus:**

Vocabulary: Define each of the following words.

Chronically

Mundane

Sustainable

Demeanor

Hyperventilating

Mediocre

Affirmative

Procrastinate

Nonchalant

Mesmerized

Phlebotomist

Appalled

Deus ex machina

Agoraphobia

Nostalgic

Reinvigorate

Reciprocate

Assertiveness

1. How do these vocabulary words deal with health **AND** the main concepts and themes from *Highly Illogical Behavior*? Support your answer with reference from the text.
2. Discuss the importance of physical fitness and the fact that Solomon was homeschooled and did not leave the house for years. (No less than 2 full paragraphs).

What did Solomon do to keep in shape?

Create an exercise program for him that covers these areas:

Aerobic activity, Strength Training, Balance exercises, Yoga and Flexibility training.

Create a 4 day plan for Solomon using these activities.

Describe the exercises that Solomon should do each day, include repetitions, and for how long each day. The chart below is a sketch of the activities, you must include the specifics. Feel free to create a plan or poster to document Solomon's health and wellness journey.

Day	General Activity	Specific Activity	Variety
Sunday	Rest None –		
Monday	Active Recovery	Myofascial Release	–
Tuesday	Workout	Running	Sprints/Hill Sprints
Wednesday	Workout	Weight Lifting	Full Body
Thursday	Active Recovery	Swimming or Yoga	–
Friday	Workout	Running	Endurance/Long Distance
Saturday	Workout	Running	Max Effort/Medium Distance