

Turn your summer read experience into a Fiction Photography Exhibit. Is this the project you want to choose? Use the following FAQ to determine if this approach to reflecting and responding to your summer read experience will give you the best opportunity to share and develop your skills.

NOTE: Do not use online photobook tools for creating your project. This is your creative project with a series of exhibit sheets/placards that put the focus on the passage from the Orphan Train and your original photo. Print out your photos, grab a glue stick, color markers, a pair of scissors and get to work. <http://www.blurb.com/photo-books> may give you some ideas but don't use it to create your project.

What is a Fiction Photography Exhibit for the BFHS One Read? The simplest definition is that you're going to turn the text of the Orphan Train into a photographic experience of your own design. Whatever you call it, it's simply storytelling through the lens of your camera. Select a series of passages from the book that are representative of Kline's story. Beneath each passage, paste a photo that helps your reader see what the author meant to say in the Orphan Train. Capture a scene from your world that represents each of the formative ideas in the book and let your photos tell the story.

Where can I get an idea of what the finished product should look like? Go to the store or your public library and look through the photography books. Are you familiar with the photos Eudora Welty published separately from the stories she wrote? Take a look at this article from Smithsonian Magazine to see how she used photography to see <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/womens-history/eudora-welty-as-photographer-117044298/?no-ist> You will be re-telling Kline's story but Welty's style should give you a few ideas. Her photos became stories, your story will be a series of photos that retells the Orphan Train.

How do I get started? Read the Orphan Train and think about the main ideas and messages the book conveys to you. Organize your thoughts and then head out with you camera. Loosen up, be creative. Watch how it comes together. This should take multiple shoot sessions. Your mood and your changing locations will contribute to the creativity of your final product. Toss the photos and quotes that don't fit your overall project and keep the elements that will help to retell the story in your new format.

In other words, analyze the story. Clearly identify the **Beginning** of the book, select at least 3 events that happen during the **Rising Action** and that lead to the **Climax**. What is the **Resolution** and what is the **Ending**? Every story has a flow. Step into the original author's intentions to inform and entertain. You are not trying to literarily capture the exact scenes in the book but rather use scenes from your everyday world that seem to say something representative of the passages you selected from the book.

How do I know what to put into pictures and what to write about? Stick to the book. Remember, the person experiencing your Fiction Photography Exhibit has chosen your format over the original and more traditional text. Leave your opinions behind while you focus on restating the author's story as it was originally meant to be told. You'll need a minimum of 15 photos and 15 quotes but you may find you need a few more to get the full meaning of the book across.

Any creative tips? Never leave home without your camera, phone or whatever you're using to take your photos. You never know where or when inspiration will come. It's usually a good idea to take notes while

you're reading. For example, what do you need to know about the plot and characters you plan to include in your Fiction Photography Exhibit?

What should the finished Fiction Photography Exhibit look like?

Standard 8 1/2 by 11 paper is good to use or a more firm poster board might work better. You may use different kinds of paper or mix it up-- larger, smaller, newsprint, etc. Use markers and colored pencils to achieve a unique style. Decide what adds to conveying your meaning and avoid what might distract your viewer from understanding what you are trying to say.

A Fiction Photography Exhibit page would look something like this sample (Exhibit entry 6) Use a minimum of 15 quotes and 15 photos. The important thing is that when your audience looks at the series of photos and reads the quotes, the totality of the experience retells the Orphan Train story. Remember, the photos need to be your original work, not pictures from the web or other exhibits. Be sure to number each entry so your audience gets the story sequence the way you intended.



"Perhaps this is our strange and haunting paradox here in America -- that we are fixed and certain only when we are in movement. At any rate, that is how it seemed to young George Webber, who was never so assured of his purpose as when he was going somewhere on a train. And he never had the sense of home so much as when he felt that he was going there. It was only when he got there that his homelessness began." — Thomas Wolfe, *You Can't Go Home Again*

(This is an example of how a photo expresses the text. Your quotes, of course, will be from the Orphan Train.)

Exhibit entry 6

This sheet accompanies the Fiction Photography Exhibit Description

Ask a librarian Ms. Smith is available via email at dms@fenwick.org so don't hesitate to reach out. The O'Rourke Library and Learning Center is on the 3rd floor on the auditorium side of the school.