



# **CLAY MARBLE BOOK REVIEW**

SECONDARY ENGLISH ILBC MAING



### **The Boy In The Striped Pajamas**

The Boy in the Striped Pajamas was written by an Irish Novelist, John Boyne and it was published on 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2006.

This novel's setting dated back to the time of World War II, when an 8 years old boy named Bruno and his family left Berlin because his father, David Thewlis, who had to take up residence near the concentration camp as he had just become a commandant. They moved to an area on the outskirts of the country near southern Poland. Bruno wandered behind his house where he finds Shmuel, a Jewish boy of his age. Shmuel and other Jewish people were separated from the rest of the world by barbed- wire fences of the camp. All the Jewish people in the camp were wearing white and blue striped pajamas. These two boys were young and they had no idea why they were separated or their surroundings. Long story short, Bruno insisted on helping Shmuel find his father, which we know that he was dead since he was sent to the gas chamber. Bruno crossed the barb-wire fence by digging the ground and changed his clothes into striped pajamas so that he looked like everyone else. Soon, both the boys as well as other Jewish people were being taken by the commandants to a gas chamber where they sadly died. Bruno's father found out about this but it was too late to save his son. This novel was such a tragic story which describes the cruelty of the German people and their leader Hitler who tried to wipe out Jewish people. This novel's characters were not based on the real people but the killing of the Jewish people was all true during that time. This was later known as the Holocaust and that camp where Shmuel and other Jewish people is known as Auschwitz concentration camp. There were also many camps in different areas where the land was ruled by Germans at that time. Some places could be visited today and you could see the tragic lives that the Jewish people had to live and their poor living conditions in those camps.

I chose this book to review about it because it was somewhat based on a true event and how important it is to know these types of history of these people and how they should learn from their mistake. The message of this novel was that no matter which nationalities or our skin color are, we are all humans and we shouldn't criticize or torture each other. We should have the mindset of the children like Bruno and Shmuel since they are pure and they see each other as great human beings and they do not point out other's weaknesses or criticize them because of their nationalities.

This novel is one of my favorites since it holds such a meaningful message and I would like others to read this book since its interesting and we could get knowledge from it. There is also a movie about this novel which you could watch.



I'm gonna recommend a book. It's called After the Woods by Kim Savage.

There are two girls, Liv and Julia playing in the woods in the evening and Julia run faster in the woods and Liv lost her but later when she found her the kidnapper got her. The kidnapper wanted both of them but can only handle kidnapping one of them. Liv left Julia with the kidnapper and run away but somehow, they both escaped the woods but after a year later the same event happened in the woods and a girl died. That's where Liv's guilt for leaving Julia in the woods grew stronger.

This book is really good even though I'm not good at writing about it. I hope you read this book and hope you have a very good day.

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The Clay Marble is a pretty underrated book, for the thought put into it. Basically, it's about a girl, Dara, and her family who got caught up in a war in Cambodia. The family met another family and decided to stick together, just because. Dara became friends with another girl, Jantu, who makes toys for fun. One of those toys, a clay marble - the title of the book - was claimed to be magic. Suddenly, the war got closer and the family got separated. Jantu's little brother was not in a good condition, so she had to call an ambulance and remove herself for most of the story. Dara then goes on to find her family, with the help of a worthless clay ball which she thought was actually magic. The ball basically helps her for the rest of the story. Then Jantu dies but that wasn't actually necessary. And only at the near end of the book does she realise that the ball was a fraud. The moral of the story was to be confident in yourself, which is a pretty simple moral derived from a pretty long story. I honestly think that the book is pretty fascinating, but pretty uninteresting. The story has an extremely detailed yet simple plot that I think it's pretty easy to pick up on if you have nothing to do.



### The Clay Marble Book Review

The book is about the story of a young girl and her family, innocent civilians caught up in a war being fought between that dictatorship and outside governments trying to remove it from power. A young Cambodian girl named Dara and her family travel to the Nung Chan refugee camp, where they plan to find safety from the war raging around them. When they arrive at the camp, the family makes its way to one of the few open spaces left, where they set up camp next to another refugee family-friendly teenaged Nea, solemn Grandpa Kem, Nea's outspoken cousin Jantu and Jantu's baby brother. The two families join forces to make as good a life as they can in the camp. Jantu and Dara in particular become close friends. Meanwhile, Nea and Sarun experience a romantic attraction to each other. Eventually, the war comes too close, and the camp becomes dangerous. A bomb falls and Dara and Jantu are separated from their families. Dara tries to catch up with the convoy, but is unable to. She then returns to the refugee camp. There she finds the bully Chnay, who tells her her family had been there and had been waiting for her but had moved on. Dara relies on the magic clay marble for help and courage. Dara, with what she believes is the help of the marble, manipulates her way into working for the camp cook, and eventually reunites with both families. On their way back, they got shot. Jantu is fatally wounded and, with Dara at her side, dies the next day, but not before telling Dara that the marble in fact had no magic.

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Dara is a 12-year-old girl who grows up in a war-torn Cambodia during the 1980's. Her mother, brother (Sarun), and she are forced to move from their own town to the border of Cambodia and Thailand to settle at a refugee camp. Fighting between several factions in Cambodia, communist rule, and Vietnamese invasions cause many Cambodian citizens to relocate to this safer ground.

At the refugee camp, Dara meets a girl around her age – Jantu. The two girls form a close relationship and learn that “playing with dolls” is the best way for them to take their minds off the violence in their country as well as the loss of some members of their families. As Dara and Jantu become closer, they come to view each other as “family members”. The view of family is a major theme in this novel.

Many families in Cambodia are displaced during this time, however the bonds of humanity bring together people in the most desperate of times. Around this time in the story, Jantu gives Dara a clay marble for support and encouragement during this stressful period.



**The Clay Marble** born in 1991 . It is set in war-torn Cambodia after the fall of the Khmer Rouge in the early 1980s. It is about a girl named Dara and her friend Jantu, and illustrates the struggles they face. It also shows how brave a girl can be and all the effects and sufferings of the war.



The Clay Marble is a 1991 children's novel by Minfong Ho. It is set in war-torn Cambodia after the fall of the Khmer Rouge in the early 1980s. The story is set in Cambodia, who is in the midst of a war. Dara and her family travel to the border, where they meet new friends and receive food. Her friends' baby is injured, forcing Jantu, a friend of Dara, and her baby brother to go to a hospital. This disconnects Jantu, the baby, and Dara from the rest of the family. Jantu sends Dara to retrieve the rest of the family, and she finally finds them. Then, Nea, another friend and Dara go to the hospital after a few days. They find the baby and Jantu in a gruesome hospital. On the way back, they are shot at by a group of soldiers, including Dara's brother, Sarun. Nea is shot, and later dies. After convincing Sarun to come with them back home, they ready themselves with rice seed, and head home as one family.

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### ***If I Never Forever Endeavor***

This book was about a bird who didn't yet know how to fly. The bird has to decide if it will try to fly, but it was not sure if it wants to. The bird thought, "If I never forever endeavor" then I won't ever learn. On one wing, he worries he might fail and on the other wing he thinks of how he may succeed. He worries that if he tries, he may get lost in the world. That makes him want to stay in his nest where he's safe. I think this book would help other children to learn that trying new things can be scary, but sometimes when we try, we can find things that make us happy too. And this book will help others know that mistakes are okay and part of learning. My favorite part is that the bird tried and learned that she could fly. I also liked that I read this book because it gave me a chance to talk to mom about making mistakes and how I don't like making them. Then I learned they are good and part of learning. Boys and girls who are 3 to 8 years old would like this book because it teaches about trying a new thing and how it's important to get past being scared so you can learn new things. I give the book 5 stars since I think it's important for other children to learn about courage.

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## THE CLAY MARBLE – BOOK REVIEW

The Clay Marble by Mingfong Ho. This book takes place in Cambodia, in the 1970s. As a war broke out, thousands of families and friends were separated because of it. Dara's family was one of them. Even when families for separated, there was still some hope left for Dara, her mother and brother were headed for a refugee camp in Thailand and they got there safe and sound. In the refugee camp, Dara became friends with Jantu. Jantu almost somewhat had this magical touch, and could make toys from scraps and pieces of fabric and mud. As the story unravels, Jantu makes a magic ball out of clay which eventually helps Dara find her family. "The Clay Marble", written by Mingfong Ho. It even makes us feel this some sort of sympathetically feel for the characters. A great book for young-adults.

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## **The clay marble book review**

Thousand of Cambodian families were separated by war. Dara's family was one of the families who were separated by war, but there is hope since she, her brother and mother were headed for a refugee camp on the Thailand. Once they were safely there, Dara made friends with Jantu. Jantu is someone Dara met who almost has a magical touch in making toys from pieces of fabric and mud. Jantu makes a magic marble out of clay which helps Dara find her family. Then returns to the hospital for Jantu and her brother.



## The Clay Marble Book Review

The Clay Marble is a 1991 children's novel by Minfong Ho and it takes place in Cambodia during the late 1970's. The writer, Minfong Ho, has managed to make us feel like the main character in the book, Dara, by describing about her own experiences while living in Cambodia.

This story is about a young Cambodian girl and her family who were made refugees during the nightmares of the Cambodian Wars. The characters are very vividly described and the ending is, although predictable, very well done. Depicting the life of a girl caught in the middle of a war, this book describes the struggles of being a war refugee. She survived starvation, invading armies, shelling, injuries, and death of those who are close to her.

I really like the book, especially how it constantly shifts between happy and sad scenes. It makes you want to read more, more and much more. This book was the first book that made me cry and I wished that the book had a happy ending. Overall, I think this novel is a very good book for everyone to read, not just for fun but also to realize how these people at the time were treated by the war. I recommend this book to people who like reading about everything in one. Action, tragedy, history and adventure all in this great book.



The Clay Marble, is written by Minfong Ho about the war in Cambodia. Dara is a twelve-year-old who traveled many days with her family, searching for the Border. They approach the border and they are welcomed by Nea's family. Both families came from the same home-town so they had a lot in common. Dara's family is very new to the life at the Border so Nea invites them for dinner. Nea is the same age as Dara's older brother called Sarun. So they get a liking into each other. Dara meets Nea's sister called Jantu the next day. They wait in a long line for breakfast and they talked a lot. They talk to each other about their home and their family. Both families lost some family members through the war. Jantu makes a clay village, with clay both families and animals. She carefully made the faces of everyone and the animals. But it was broken into pieces by the bully called Chnay. Dara cry but Jantu cheers her up by making a magic marble. This marble was given to Dara because since Jantu had "magic" in her fingers and as she made the marble it had magic too. Happiness in the Border doesn't last forever. The shelling and bombing there cause the family to get separated. Jantu uses the strength of the marble to overcome many of the obstacles to find her family once again. She believed strongly that the marble would help her and it did. Finally, the family is joined back together but Jantu is accidentally shot and before she dies, she tells Dara that the magic wasn't inside the marble but inside her, Dara's brother wants to stay in the Nong Chan so he could fight and become part of the army. But with all her confidence inside Dara she makes her own marble and convinces her brother to go home. That's when she realizes that the magic is inside her, not in the marble. the marble didn't do anything. My favorite part of this book is when they were making the clay villages.



## **The Clay Marble Book Review Assignment**

Do you want to know what this story is about? I would like you to recommended to read this book. Anyway, let's get started.

The story of the Clay Marble, by Minfong Ho, takes place in Cambodia during the late 1970's. The main characters are Dara, Sarun, Jantu, Nea and Chnay. A communist group called the Khmer Rouge took control of the country and treated the people with great brutality. People were forced to leave the cities and work as farmers in the fields. They had very little to eat and many were killed for stealing food or trying to escape. Then soldiers from neighboring Vietnam invaded Cambodia to fight against the Khmer Rouge.

I hope you will like the story that I recommended. Take Care and Stay Safe!

Written By:

Rose



(Summary) Dara was one of the people whose Cambodia family got separated by war but she, her brother and mother head for a refugee camp on the Thailand border. When she got to the camp, she made friends with Jantu and Dara's brother falls in love with Jantu's cousin, Nea. When the camp was bombed, Jantu was wounded by friendly fire and doesn't survive but her tragic death empowers Dara to confront Sarun (Dara's brother), who's caught up in mindless militarism instigated by a charismatic leader. Ho (Rice Without Rain, 1990) skillfully shapes her story to dramatize political and humanitarian issues. The easily swayed Sarun lacks dimension, but the girls are more subtly drawn—Dara's growing courage and assertiveness are especially convincing and admirable. (Review) It is a real good book which is very touching and tragic. I would recommend people reading this book in their free time.



## Book Review: The Clay Marble

I have just read this realistic, emotional novel by Minfong Ho. The themes of this book would be the consequences of war on people, family or home, friendship, bravery, and a simple life.

Dara, the protagonist, has become a refugee at the Cambodia-Thai border with her mother and older brother, Sarun. Families at the refugee camp are all torn apart, missing at least one family member who has tragically been killed by the soldiers or has been lost on the way to the border, but these scattered groups of families become closer, like Dara's and Nea's. At first, everything seems to be going well when Dara and her family arrived at the border and made good friends with Nea, her cousins, Jantu and Baby, and Grandpa Kem. The excitement starts when an intense war broke out at the border. The family is separated while running away from the camp, and Dara has to find her way back to her family alone, keeping the clay marble that Jantu has made for her. She thinks that the marble's magical, and that it gives her courage. She meets Chnay, who helps Dara find her family while Dara was working as a cook's helper at a base camp. At this point, the reader might feel tense and unsure, or even hopeless that Dara might not find her family back again. This part of the book made me feel that Dara was already abandoned, lost and hopeless. Dara will not give up on the search and with much luck, finds her family again. The most tragic part is when Jantu, Dara's best friend, gets shot by Sarun's companion soldier. Jantu is a wise, realistic one, who is also good at making all sorts of toys from scrap and mud, but unfortunately, she died from the wound of the gunshot. It is hard to say if it has a tragic or a happy ending, but it sure has lots of heartbreaking parts. I guess it has a happy ending as the two families lived a peaceful life back home, and Dara finally realizes that it was not the clay marble that gave her courage, but that the courage came from within her.

It's a splendid read which has been carefully written that it makes the reader feel as if he/she were the characters. It reminds me of home, family, and even a thought that war has negative impacts on innocent people and has separated families. The reader might even cry at some tragic points of the book.

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## The Clay Marble Book Review

The Clay Marble Book is a book written by Minfong Ho in 1991. The book is about two girls that survived during a war in Cambodia.

The main characters are Dara, the protagonist who is determined to live through the war with her families. Sarun, who is the Dara's brother and lead the family throughout Cambodia. He becomes a soldier and has to be convinced to come with family. Nea, an older girl who becomes engaged with Sarun and also a strong woman who help family with providing food. Jantu, a girl who is friend with Dara, but later on was shot by accident. The book name is "Clay Marble" because marble give Dara hope and she believe it from the start till the end. The main theme of the book is "never give up" and to face the difficulties bravely.

I learn a lot from this book such as some messages from author like not to give up, to try till the last, and some other experiences and feelings of Dara. I also recommend this book to other people because this is a really good book with interesting story and settings.

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## **The Clay Marble Book(Renegades) Review Assignment**

Renegades is a Cyberpunk themed story. It's about prodigies(humans with extraordinary abilities), in fact, they are the renegades. They emerge from the shadow of the society. They give hope to the people living in the crooked society. There is this person named "Nova" who hates the renegades, she is seeking vengeance. If I dive too deep into the story, I would ruin it.

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In this writing, I am going to write a review of a novel called “The Clay Marable”. It is a children novel which was written by Minfong Ho in 1991. It is a fiction book. Various characters are included in the novel like Jantu, Chnay, Dara’s mother, Grandpa Kem, Nea, Sarun, Dara, etc.

Dara is the protagonist of this novel and the novel is mainly told from her perspective. Dara is bright and free-sprinted little girl. The novel introduces the tussle that Dara and her friend Jantu face in war-torn Cambodia after the fall of the Khmer Rouge in the early 1980s. As well, it expresses how intrepid a girl can be and all the effects and sufferings from the war. In this novel, the theme is to never give up, even if we face various difficult situations and decisions.

To sum up, everything that has been stated so far, this book is satisfactory to children and teenagers. The particular reason for this is because the theme of this novel is to build up confidence and fearless. So that we are confident and fearless enough to face the difficulties through our life.

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Drawing on her experience with a relief organization on the Thai border, Ho tells the story of a Cambodian family, fleeing the rival factions of the 80's while hoping to gather resources to return to farming in their homeland. Narrator Dara, 12, and the remnants of her family have arrived at a refugee camp soon after her father's summary execution. At first, the camp is a haven: food is plentiful, seed rice is available, and they form a bond with another family—brother Sarun falls in love with Nea, and Dara makes friends with Nea's cousin, Jantu, who contrives marvelous toys from mud and bits of scrap; made wise by adversity, Jantu understands that the process of creation outweighs the value of things, and that dead loved ones may live on in memory. The respite is brief: Vietnamese bombing disrupts the camp, and the family is temporarily but terrifyingly separated. Later, Jantu is wounded by friendly fire and doesn't survive; but her tragic death empowers Dara to confront Sarun, who's caught up in mindless militarism instigated by a charismatic leader, and persuade him to travel home with the others—to plant rice and build a family instead of waging war. Again, Ho (*Rice Without Rain*, 1990) skillfully shapes her story to dramatize political and humanitarian issues.



## The Clay Marble Book Review

The story is set in Cambodia, who is in the midst of a war. Dara and her family travel to the border, where they meet new friends and receive food. Her friends' baby is injured, forcing Jantu, a friend of Dara, and her baby brother to go to a hospital. This disconnects Jantu, the baby, and Dara from the rest of the family. Jantu sends Dara to retrieve the rest of the family, and she finally finds them. Then, Nea, another friend and Dara go to the hospital after a few days. They find the baby and Jantu in a gruesome hospital. On the way back, they are shot at by a group of soldiers, including Dara's brother, Sarun. Nea is shot, and later dies. After convincing Sarun to come with them back home, they ready themselves with rice seed, and head home as one family.

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Alice's Adventures in Wonderland is an 1865 novel by English author Lewis Carroll. It tells of a young girl named Alice, who falls through a rabbit hole into a subterranean fantasy world populated by peculiar, anthropomorphic creatures. It is considered to be one of the best examples of the literary nonsense genre.

Carroll's book is episodic and reveals more in the situations that it contrives than in any serious attempt at plot or character analysis. Like a series of nonsense poems or stories created more for their puzzling nature or illogical delightfulness, the events of Alice's adventure are her encounters with incredible but immensely likable characters. Carroll was a master of toying with the eccentricities of language.

One feels that Carroll is never more at home than when he is playing, punning, or otherwise messing around with the English tongue. Although the book has been interpreted in numerous ways, from an allegory of semiotic theory to a drug-fueled hallucination, perhaps it is this playfulness that has ensured its success over the last century.

The book is brilliant for children, but with enough hilarity and joy for life in it to please adults too, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* is a lovely book with which to take a brief respite from our overly rational and sometimes dreary world.

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## The Clay Marble Book

The Clay Marble is a 1991 children's novel by Minong Ho. It is set in war-torn Cambodia after the fall of the Khmer Rouge in the early 1980s. It is about a girl named Dara and her friend Jantu, and illustrates the struggles they face. It also shows how brave a girl can be and all the effects and sufferings of the war.

It a sad and the difficult survival of war-torn family

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## The Clay Marble

"The Clay Marble", although directed towards younger audiences, expresses a message about war, loss, and friendship beautifully in its simplicity. It's about a girl named Dara and her family that need to survive the Vietnam War but they get separated so Dara and her new friend from the Border, Jantu, need to find their family but Jantu's baby brother's foot gets hit by a bomb and she has to go to the hospital and Dara needs to find her family and Jantu's. The war changed the life and mindset of people. Depicting the life of a girl caught in the middle of a war, this book describes the struggles of being a war refugee.

I really like the message that this story gives us because it made me think a lot about how life is full of mysterious things that could happen at any time and we need to be grateful for the people that are by our side every day and for our family that after god are the people that love us the most.

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## The Clay Marble

The Clay Marble was a book written by Ho Minfong. The story took place in the late 1970s in Cambodia and was based on real life events. In the story, the protagonist, Dara's family escaped to the Cambodia-Thai border from their village, away from the communists ruling their place. There, they met another family and became very close with them. She also become friends with Jantu, a thirteen-year-old girl from the family. They would soon spend their time making clay toys and talking about the future; a peaceful one.

However, when things started going wrong again, Jantu and Dara, and the rest of the families got parted due to an unfortunate event. Eventually, Dara went out to find her family with her new friend, Chnay. After quite some time, they reunited. She was over the moon to be finally reunited but her brother seemed to have changed. There was also very great news about Nea and Sarun.

Then, Nea and her went back to Jantu and Baby, bringing them back to the family. On the way back, due to the actions of Sarun, Jantu suffered for quite some time. Unfortunately, a very tragic thing occurred to Jantu the next day. The family had no choice to return to their village without her.

In this story, it shows about how difficult life is during a war. It also shows about how deep a friendship can get and how powerful one can be. Overall, it was a very intriguing story.

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## The clay marble book review

This novel actually begins with Dara, a young Cambodian girl, traveling with her family (her Mother and older brother Sarun) to the Nung Chan refugee camp, where they plan to find safety from the war raging around them (between the soldiers of the Khmer Rouge dictatorship and the Vietnamese government attempting to overthrow it). The ten-years-old Dara narrates how she and both families made their way home, settled, and prospered. She also describes her intention to help her own daughter learn courage the way she did - with the help of a magic marble.

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## The Clay Marble

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I really like the message that this story gives us because it made me think a lot about how life is full of mysterious things that could happen at any time and we need to be grateful for the people that are by our side every day and for our family that after god are the people that love us the most.

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## THE CLAY MARBLE BOOK

*This novel for young adults is set during the mid-1970s in Cambodia during a period when the country was ruled by the Khmer Rouge a communist dictatorship. It tells the story of a young girl and her family innocent civilians caught up in a war. Being fought between that dictatorship and outside governments trying to remove it from power as the the narrative recounts the hardships that Dhara and her family encounter. They struggle to survive and stick together. The novel explores themes of self-confidence and the nature of family. The book begins with a preface from the the author in which she describes how watching television images of the war in Cambodia inspired her to take action to help the civilians caught up in its damaging effects. She also describes how when visiting the refugee camp she was given two gifts by a young girl a small clay marble and the opportunity to see her and other children in the camp at play finding joy in the midst of horrible suffering. The novel itself begins with Dhara a young Cambodian girl travelling with her family her mother and her older brother CERN the non-chan refugee camp. Where they planned to find safety from the war raging around them between the soldiers of the Khmer Rouge dictatorship and the Vietnamese government attempting to overthrow it. When they arrived at the camp the family makes its way to one of the few open spaces left where they set up camp next to another refugee family. A friendly teenage near solemn grandpa Kam Nia's outspoken cousin John - who is about Dara's age and John whose baby brother. After some initially tentative conversation the two families joined forces to make as good a life as they can in the camp. John - and Dhara in particular become close friends with John to teaching Dharam many things including how to make toys out of clay many of which are deliberately destroyed by a bullying orphan Shinae. One toy a marble that John do says is magic is particularly fascinating to Dhara meanwhile Nia and Sauron experienced a romantic attraction to each other. Eventually, the war comes **to close and the camp becomes dangerous**. The two families joined a long convoy of departing refugees in hurry as fast as they can out of harm's way when a bomb falls near the convoy causing Dhara and John to be separated from their families and then from each other when John too has to ride with her injured brother in an ambulance. the frantically worried Dhara doesn't want to leave her but John who says she has to go find her family and quickly fashions another clay marble which she says is also magic and will help Dhara along her way after John who leaves Dhara tries to catch up with the convoy but is unable to she then returns to the refugee camp in the hopes that her the family would be waiting for her there she finds the bullies Shinae who tells her family had been there and had been waiting for her but had moved on when Dhara resolves to follow them Shinae joins her and the two eventually make their way to the makeshift base camp for soldiers in the rebel army the The whole time Dhara relies on the magic clay marble for help and courage Dhara with that she believes is the help of the marble manipulates her way into working for the camp cook and eventually reunites with both families Sauron is now a soldier and determined to make good on his new career Dhara meanwhile is determined to retrieve John - and her brother from the hospital and returned them home when both families can resume their quiet farm life eventually after bullying Suren into helping her Dhara accompanied by Nia makes the journey to the hospital where she finds John – and her baby brother more than ready to leave on the way back however a group of centuries including sovereign mistakes them for enemies and shoots them john ii is fatally wounded and with Daraa at her side from she dies the next day but not before telling Dara that the Marble is not magic all the strength dar felt all the opportunities she encountered were the result not of the marble but her courage following John twos death the angry grieving dark then bullies are ending the agreeing to make the trip home with them in an epilogue the 10 years older Donna narrates how she and both families made their way home settled and prospered she also describes her intention to help her own daughter learn courage the way she did with the help of a magic marble where's the funny hey does he eat the clay marble Konami.*



The Clay Marble is a scarily relevant book that takes place during the Cambodian war. The book itself centers on our protagonist Dara going away with her family during the war to find a safer place to stay, during this they meet another family one of the members of which happens to be a girl named Junta who teaches her how to make clay toys and makes her a 'magic' clay marble.

The war eventually ends and both Dara and Junta are separated from their families due to a bomb. A lot of stuff happens that they have to go through and Junta ends up dying from a bullet wound after telling Dara about how the marble wasn't really magic but that it was her strength that kept her going.

This is a really good book and one that I think is quite important in this time. It tells the story of how persistence and strength can be the most important asset in times of need.

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I would like to review an interesting book called The Clay Marble. Even though it is fictional, it is a good book as it includes specific details and chronological order. Most importantly, there is an important message which is to never give up and be who you are no matter what the others tell or think of you.

The Clay Marble is a 1991 children's novel by Minfong Ho. It is set in war-torn Cambodia after the fall of the Khmer Rouge in the early 1980s. It is about a girl named Dara and her friend Jantu, and illustrates the struggles they face. In fact, it also shows how brave a girl can be and all the effects and sufferings of the war and how these girls were able to overcome.

12-year-old Dara, her older brother Sarun, and their mother went on a journey to the Thai border in search of rations. Here they meet the remnants of another Cambodian family, one of whose members, Jantu, becomes Dara's friend; another, Nea, falls in love with Sarun. Life is going along well until in fighting among neighboring guerrilla groups forces the families to flee again. In the confusion, Dara and Jantu become separated from the main group. After many incidents, they are reunited with their families, although Jantu is shot in the process and dies soon after.

Sarun, once a proud farmer, decides to join the military. Dara bravely stands up to him, and convinces him to return home with the family. The title comes from Jantu's effervescence and manual dexterity, the combination of which impresses Dara as magic. She believes a clay marble, having been invested with Jantu's magic, gives her the courage to get through her ordeals. She wishes for luck and more from the marble, only to find out the magic is within herself.

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Farmer Hogget guessed the weight of a piglet at a fair and took him home. The piglet, Babe was now living on Hogget's sheep farm and found himself in a big box next to Fly and the young sheep-dogs. Fly adopted Babe and she soon started teaching and training Babe about the farm and how they protect the dogs. Babe was a determined pig, and he eventually became a sheep-pig. He learnt the trade of sheep herding through a number of dramatic turns, and overcame the shame of being a dumb pig or, worse, a Christmas meal.

This book gives us an idea of how a lonely and sad pig manages to be useful and adapt wherever he is. Babe is a brave and a determined one. He's definitely gifted, has the nerves of steel and the heart of gold. Babe the sheep-pig honors the integrity and nature of animals. The whole book is set from their viewpoint. You will love all of these animals and even the good-humored mice who announce various chapter heads in the life action movie, which was produced in 1995.

Babe the Sheep-pig shows how certain such expectations can change across the timeline; stereotypes can change. With the aid of his new sheepdog mom, Babe was able to resolve current dogma directly linked to her specious dog. It's a great example when a loving spirit and intellect allows a piglet to be valued as a member of animal society. With its reverence for the ideals of self-esteem, passion, empathy, Babe is a small moral masterpiece.

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### The Clay Marble Book Review

Fleeing from Cambodia, Dara and her mother and her brother finds a refugee camp on the Border of Thailand. At first, the camp is wonderful. Plenty of food and other resources. Dara makes friends with Jantu, who has an almost magical touch in creating toys from mud. However, the Vietnamese destroyed the camp and separated the family temporarily. Unfortunately, Jantu died of friendly fire. Jantu makes a magic marble out of clay that helps Dara track down her family and then return to the hospital for Jantu and her brother. The book expresses about war, loss and friendship. Although the book is towards children, it expresses a mature image, describing the struggle of war refugees. The writer intends to express the result of war for the future generations. War is a struggle and doesn't benefit the both sides. After all, innocent people die in the battlefield. The book tells us the struggle in war. The soldiers who are commanded to fight. Peace could be made through a treaty not by killing the other side!

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BLACK BOY details the formative years of Richard Wright, a best-selling author and activist who grew up during the 1920s in Mississippi and Tennessee. The book reveals the extreme emotional and physical depravation of Wright's childhood -- hunger and the threat of violence were Wright's most constant companions. After his father abandons the family, Richard, his mother, and his brother move from town to town, in and out of relatives' homes, in a constant struggle to survive. Richard wants to be educated, but never knows year to year whether he will be able to enroll in school -- because he can't afford the books he needs, hasn't proper clothing, or has to care for his ailing mother. Yet, somehow Wright managed to retain some semblance of self esteem, and a keen awareness of the injustice of racial prejudice. Writing from an adult perspective, he shows clearly the desperation born of bigotry and brutality, and the ways that learning and ideas helped to liberate him.



## **Jack The Ripper**

I have listened to this one audio book called “Jack The Ripper” and was very intrigued by it. The man who kills women during the 1800s in the UK. These women were known as the “night women” and were brutally murdered by a slit in the throat and uterus getting ripped out. The inner body parts usually would be left on the shoulder of the victims. Multiple men were accused of being the killer. A royal family member included in the list of suspects. The name comes from the letter that were sent to the press and were always signed “Jack The Ripper”. He never ends up getting caught because is it really a “he”. Supposedly, people always thought it was a man but during those times women who help giving birth walk around with bloody aprons. Might make sense but we don’t know. I still think it’s a man because there is a theory where it makes sense that someone might actually be the killer.

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The clay marble was a very great book as it gave me more knowledge about wars and how it can destroy many peoples home and lives like Dara's. In the start of the story, we know that Cambodia was in a war where dictators were ruling. Dara's and her mom and big brother went to the refugee camp after their home wasn't safe anymore. There Dara met Jantu and her family. Dara and Jantu likes to play with clay and Jantu told Dara about a magic clay marble. After some times the camp was attacked and there were bombs near them. Jantu needed to go to the hospital as her baby brother got hurt and Dara was left alone with the magic clay marble Jantu gave her. Thinking the marble had magic she had the courage and was brave on her way to find her family. She also met the bully Chnay. She eventually became friends with him as he was not as bad as she thought and helped her on her way to find her family. When she found her family and decided to go find Jantu her older brother and his other soldier friends thought Jantu was an enemy and shot her. Therefore, Jantu died and Dara was told the marble didn't have magic and it was her own courage and braveness all along. After reading the story it taught me about believing in yourself and that you can do anything like how the magic clay marble didn't have magic and it was Dara's own self that led her to her achievements. It was a very emotional story and almost made me cry when Jantu died.



What would you do for your dreams? What would you do for something you dedicated your entire life to? You sacrificed everything for it, friendships, love, and livelihood, just to make it a reality. You even try to strive for it, even when it's impossible.

And what would you do if it all came crumbling, down, down, and down?

And what if you seemingly came back?

Yoasobi's song, Gunjou, is seemingly about this tragedy, as we follow the story of the narrator and their downfall, and return to sense.

Note: Although it is true that this song is made for Blue Period, I am not going to consider it within the context of the series. I shall be considering what the song has to convey from the \*lyrics\* itself. However, I'll be using the story of the Dancer from the official MV as a reference and apply its message to make a plot that matches with the lyrics and the motivations of the original protagonist. Anyway, let's begin.

Ah, just like usual,  
I yawn in the days that pass.  
Overcoming the vibrant loud nights,  
Mourning falls on the streets of Shibuya."  
"That kind of feeling  
Like it's empty somewhere  
It sure is boring  
But that is fine  
That's how it is  
This is fine"

The Narrator feels 'empty', and is bored. However, they think they are ok, that they are fine. This tells us that whatever is the reason for this state, it's important enough for the Narrator to lie to themselves for. Something that they would discard and ignore their own feelings for.

"Drawing based on from how I felt it  
In that color I chose myself  
In the morning surrounded by a sleepy atmosphere  
The blue sky I visited  
To say that I like the things I like  
It is scary and I can't help it  
But, I felt that  
I had met my true self"

And here, we learnt what it was: Painting. The Narrator uses 'the blue sky' as a metaphor for their hobby. They draw as they see fit (first line) with the colors which they see fit (second line).

We also learn that the Narrator keeps this a secret, that they are scared to confess about their hobby. But when they do it, the emptiness described in the verse before had gone, and they finally feel full.

"Ah. the further I reach out  
The further it goes  
Today doesn't go as planned either  
I am still struggling frantically  
Even the feelings of regret and frustration  
Are just pathetic and tears come out"  
"The deeper I step into it  
The more agonizing it is  
It even becomes painful  
Moving forwards based on how I felt it  
On this path I chose by myself  
In the night when I rub my heavy eyelids  
The blue oath I held onto  
To continue what I like  
It's not only 'fun'  
Can I really do it?  
I feel anxious about it though"

It is truly there even now

Your true voice that hid before you knew it  
Let it resonate, now  
Even if you pretend that-you can't see it  
It is truly there, within you"

The final verse is a double message. On one hand, it's the artist's final encouragement on themselves. To let their voice out fully and to embrace it. They finally convinced themselves that, even if it's not there, it is there: Hope. Even if it may seem like it isn't anywhere to be found, or if they pretend to not see it in a midst of despair, Hope still exists. They finally shackled their locks of despair, and allowed their voice to resonate.

And this message, should also go to you. In these had times, Hope cannot be rarer. But remember the story of the lonely painter, who turned their life around. Remember that at the end of the day, only those that can embrace the things they love and can dedicate their lives to them will ever be happy.

But what happened to the Narrator? Were they successful? Well, I cannot tell you. At the end of the day, such ending was never provided, so you can insert your own. Furthermore, this is my idea of what this song is about, and it could very well be simply for Blue Period, or the sad Dancer who danced as her world, and everyone else's, ends.

I would like to credit Genius for the translation which I am working with. I also want to credit the original creator of the song, Yoasobi, for the creation of this interesting song.

Ah, just like usual, I yawn at the night's final hour. Overcoming this assignment, relief fell upon me.

(Note : Do not post this segment in the final PowerPoint.

Hello cher! What cha think? I did a Song review again, as my last 3 were also. I didn't want to break the trend, so here I am. Anyway, update on the assignments I missed, once again I am gonna say, they are in the works! Believe me! ANYway, I really want to sleep now soooo, Goodnight!

~Sincerely, Todd)

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However, the more they indulge in their hobby, the more pained they become. They start to doubt themselves, whether their drawings were as good as they planned (third line), and regret and frustrations fuel them until they break into tears. The second verse extends on this, further explaining to us the pain and despair of the Narrator. However, they still continue as they see fit (4<sup>th</sup> line), even when exhausted and tired (6<sup>th</sup> line). They still want to keep their 'blue oath', their dream. Doubt fills their mind, however, and they start to get anxious.

“No matter how many drawings I drew  
Hey, no matter how many drawings I drew  
It’s because I don’t have confidence that I drew them  
No matter how many times  
Hey, no matter how many times  
The things I have built up will become weapons  
To say I’ve looked around  
To say I have compared with someone  
What is the thing that only I can do  
Even now I don’t have something like confidence”

Here, we learn their main gripes. No matter how much the Narrator draws, they are not confident in themselves. The reason why they draw so much, is that it’s because they are not yet satisfied with what they had made. The second part is the most interesting however.

The Narrator calls their works weapons. And after much thought, I know what it means. They are weapons against the Narrator themselves, the main thing that hurts and abuses them. The Narrator believes no matter how much inspiration they get, it’s no use. They start to compare themselves with other artists, wondering what their niche was. What was the thing that they could only do? But they weren’t able to answer their own question, not having enough confidence for it

“But even so  
The feelings I have never felt before  
The thoughts that exist without me knowing  
Step out onto that day  
The light that is still small which I touched it,  
By facing this pain that I felt for the first time and all of it  
With the things I like  
It’s fine, let’s go, all that’s left is to enjoy it”

The Narrator finally comes to their senses and remembers why they started painting. It was, and still is, their dream. They experienced “feelings they never felt before”, and “thoughts that exist without them knowing”, and they fully grasped onto them. They were their original thoughts and feelings on painting. The old Narrator, who painted without worry and enjoyed it to the fullest. One with confidence and endeavor. Such memory was now only such a small light, but the Narrator clung onto it, restoring their own hope. They realized that they are used to this pain, and finally breaks through, ignoring everything to only enjoy painting, for the first time in forever.

“Drawing while putting everything on the line  
In the color that only I can come up with  
I continue to run through the morning and night  
The blue light I finally found  
To face it with the things I like  
It’s scary now  
But, I am no longer the invisible me of that day  
Just as I really am  
This is the irreplaceable me”

They fully devoted themselves to drawing now, giving up everything else for it. The Narrator found a niche, their style, and devoted themselves to their arts. They continue through the days and nights, and are finally “facing the blue light with the things I like”. I find this to be a metaphor for how they finally decided to put their arts on display and take the first leap. The blue lights refer to the spotlights of a museum shining onto their paintings, which are the things they like. They say that it’s scary, but comments on how they are no longer an invisible, unknown artist without confidence, but had become one with such unique style, that they are irreplaceable. That they truly believed they were among the best.

“Your true voice that hid before you knew it  
Let it resonate, hey  
Even if you pretend that you can’t see it



## THE CLAY MARBLE BOOK REVIEW

The clay marble is a book about people trying to avoid the war on Cambodia it tells a tale about a family but mainly the girl. It is a really good take on the story and a really good book I also really like the story about the author story and how to inspires her to write this book. The story starts with 2 families meet each other and making friends the 2 girls from each family they became best friends. Few months later the war was over and the 2 families were going back to their house but there was a surprise a bomb just landed on where they were and the 2 girls were separated from their family. Jun dun and Dara were scared and Jun dun's brother was injured and had to go to the hospital while Dara had to go and find her family and gave Dara a clay marble .Dara believed that the clay marble magic would help her Dara had to go and find her family but she couldn't so she went back to the place where they live before the war Dara then met up with the bully that bullied her and they team up and go and her family. She finally finds her family near the military camp. Dara is now working for the military camp as a cook and she decides to go and retrieve Jun dun and her baby brother. One day she and 1 of the family member go to the hospital to go find Jun Dun and her brother and she found them in 1 of the hospitals but in the way back home they were shot by solders and Jun Dun was killed. Before Jun Dun died she told Dara that the clay marble wasn't magic it was her courage and that she had strength in her.



The story of the Clay Marble is a novel where it is set in war-torn Cambodia after the fall of the Khmer Rouge in the early 1980s. It's a real horror story about a girl named Dara and her friend Jantu, and her family. A communist group called the Khmer Rouge took control of Cambodia and treated people with great brutality. Back then, people were forced to do whatever they said, going through the days with sorrow and fright. I have heard about the Khmer Rouge through the paintings by Vann Natt. His arts were vivid and honest where people could portray Vann Nath paintings of the Khmer Rouge how they were in refugee camps. I could say there isn't much difference with the great world wars one and two. One of my memorable situations was when Dara and Jantu start making a little ball of mud. I believe a thing as a benefit to me too. I believe my pen as a luck; it was my favourite pen of all and when I have tests in school, I mostly answer with that and get satisfactory grades. Jantu, who has the same thought like me, took it as magic. I was amazed by it, I thought I was the only one who thinks like that. Clay Marble was like magic to Jantu and Dara started to believe it. However, yes, the clay marble helped her to overcome all the sorrowful situations but the most thing that helped was her strong mindset. I love the part when she throws the marble into the jungle aloud in joy showing that she is strong without having luck as a thing. Everyone could be strong and achieve their dreams with a strong mindset without luck or beliefs. But I think because of those lucks as things in their minds, it helped them to receive a powerful mindset to overcome all and have correct choices in their life.

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## Clay Marble Book Review

Clay marble is about Dara, a Cambodian girl and her family suffering through war time. Reading this book reminded me of how war is destructive and horrible again.

In the start of the book, Khmer Rouge, the Communist Party of Cambodia was flourishing through. The dictatorship was harsh and ruthless on people, innocent civilians. Vietnam was helping to defeat Khmer Rouge and was marching onto Cambodian land. Through this time, Dara's family moves on together with other Refugees. Dara and Jantu meets in a Refugee camp with tents. From then on they become close friends and their family moves on together.

Through the journey, Dara and Jantu misses their troop because of a bomb. Jantu's baby brother is injured and had to go to the hospital. Dara wants to stay, but Jantu asks Dara to leave and find their family so that they can reunite again. She gives Dara a clay marble, saying it has magical powers. At last, the family finally reunites, but Jantu dies beside Dara. Jantu says on her deathbed that the clay marble was nothing but just a toy. It had no magical powers and says Dara went through the dark with her own courage and strength.

I once felt how war was awful again. Seeing your closest dying beside you holding your hands is a terrifying thing. This book once tells us that war leaves us with painful scars. War is not what children play like; it is a disaster.



### The clay marble assignment

The clay marble is a book about Cambodia after the fall of the Khemer Rouge during the year of 1980s. The Clay merble is a novel written by Minfong Ho. She was borned in Rangoon , Barma. She is a multilingual who can speak in three differnet language, Chinese, Thai and english. She spent most of her time in Singapore and Thaoland.

She first attended Tungai University in Taiwan before going to a university in New York.

The story's setting is in Cambodia during the war and it is about Dara dnaher family are trying to escape a war. During the escaping period, Dara was seperated from her family an she was taught herself to be brave and to be confident to find herself back to the family. She expeience the hardships back did not reduce the amount of confident that she had within herself.

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## **The Clay Marble**

*The story is set in Cambodia, who is in the midst of a war. Dara and her family travel to the border, where they meet new friends and receive food. Her friends' baby is injured, forcing Jantu, a friend of Dara, and her baby brother to go to a hospital. This disconnects Jantu, the baby, and Dara from the rest of the family. Jantu sends Dara to retrieve the rest of the family, and she finally finds them. Then, Nea, another friend and Dara go to the hospital after a few days. They find the baby and Jantu in a gruesome hospital. On the way back, they are shot at by a group of soldiers, including Dara's brother, Sarun. Nea is shot, and later dies. After convincing Sarun to come with them back home, they ready themselves with rice seed, and head home as one family. This story is an interesting story and this book would be amazing for our level to read and I would like to read this book again.*