

*Everything I Never Told You* Socratic Seminar Prep  
65 points prep, 50 points participation as a product grade  
Due October 1<sup>st</sup> **at the start of class**

**Prep work must be 100% complete upon arrival to class to participate in SS! Sections must be done independently of each other!**

**Label each section clearly!**

1. [10 points each] Write a paragraph each answering 3 of the following prompts. **(8 sentences MINIMUM) AVOID PLOT SUMMARY AND GENERALIZATIONS.**
  - A. Discuss the relationships between Nath, Lydia, and Hannah. How do the siblings both understand and mystify one another?
  - B. Why do you think Lydia is the favorite child of James and Marilyn? How does this pressure affect Lydia, and what kind of impact do you think it has on Nath and Hannah? Do you think it is more difficult for Lydia to be the favorite, or for Nath and Hannah, who are often overlooked by their parents?
  - C. What is the meaning of the novel's title? To whom do the "I" and "you" refer?
  - D. What does this novel say about parenting?
  - E. Discuss the relationship Marilyn and her mother have to cooking and their roles as stay-at-home mothers. Do you think one is happier or more satisfied?
  - F. What objects in the novel function as unifying or separating factors?
  - G. Describe Ng's use of foils in the novel.
  - H. Analyze the development of a theme.  
Pick a motif and analyze its development over the course of the novel. What is Ng's intention of employing that motif.
  - I. Discuss Ng's choice of time and how she structures the novel.
  - J. Pick a symbol in the novel and discuss its role.
  - K. Analyze the pervasive nature of dramatic irony and its effects.
  - L. Discuss the role of ambiguity in the novel.
  - M. Discuss the role of race in the novel.
  - N. Analyze the setting of the story, especially noting the lake and "Middlewood." Why does Ng create this setting?
  - O. Discuss Ng's selection of detail. Find specific examples and analyze their purpose.
  - P. Analyze the insertion of historical context throughout the text and its impact.
  - Q. Who is the protagonist and why?
  - R. Who is the antagonist and why?
  - S. How does fear function in the novel?
  - T. Who, ultimately, is responsible for Lydia's death?
  - U. How does Ng's use of pronouns contribute to a theme of the novel?
  - V. Why did Ng conclude the novel the way she did? What impact does it have on the reader?
2. [5 points each] Find 3 quotes that are important to the text.
  - a. If they are not too long, write them. If they are too long, put the page and location on the page.
  - b. Write **2-4 sentences each** about the importance of those quotes.  
***This is extremely important in terms of the AP exam essay #3!***
3. [5 points each] Find 3 different literary devices used in the novel. For each:
  - a. Write an example (or reference the page).
  - b. Write **2-4 sentences each** about why Ng uses those devices. (analysis)
4. [5 points total] Write 3 (or more) questions which are level 2.5. Make sure they are not yes/no questions; they should provoke differing opinions, discussion, and critical, analytical thinking.