

## Nonfiction Notes

Date: 1-31-14

Chapters or page numbers read: 1-12

Notes of relevant important facts, information, quotes, etc.:

- Ben's dad left in 1959 / Ben was 8 / didn't understand / dad living double life / <sup>ghetto</sup> Detroit
- Ben handled deep feelings by forgetting / surgery - 20 hrs / Siamese twins / 70 doctors in OR
- Mom was one of 24 kids / had Curtis at 13 / had to work double jobs / no money
- conjoined twins separated / 7 months old / 50 units blood / at head / 27 hours / <sup>John Hopkins</sup>

Date: 2-4-14

Chapters or page numbers read: 13-25

Notes of relevant important facts, information, quotes, etc.:

- Ben's dad wouldn't provide child support / they went broke / "gonna be fine"
- deep-seated faith in God / Curtis = older brother / god / very low grades ~~1-5th~~ <sup>1-5th</sup> grade
- discriminated for not being white / mother now has heart issues / mom = psychiatric
- 8: moved in with uncle + aunt / baptized / wanted to be a missionary doctor / church daily

Date: 2-5-14

Chapters or page numbers read: 26-38

Notes of relevant important facts, information, quotes, etc.:

- at 13 had a passion for medicine / moved to Boston 1959 / to Detroit <sup>had received more money</sup>
- determination to get back house / moved to multifamily dwelling / mom babysat + maid
- got glasses (legally handicapped) / grades started improving / memorized times tables / life changing
- 2 books from library / reports / discriminated for race / mom devoted everything for boys

Date: 2-6-14

Chapters or page numbers read: 39-45

Notes of relevant important facts, information, quotes, etc.:

- discriminated at all schools for being dark / sat there and took it / bullied by gangs
- didn't care what he wore / got enough <sup>money</sup> ~~money~~ to get old house back / went to mostly dark school
- put grades second / sports and clothes first / 8<sup>th</sup> grade / discriminated for being poor
- survived off food stamps / embarrassed about being poor and using them / mom = 3<sup>rd</sup> grade education / can't read

Main idea(s) of today's/this week's reading:

- Ben's dad left when he was young / mom went poor / gave up everything for her sons
- Discriminated for being poor and dark skinned / very determined / motivated / young passion for medicine

Subject ideas for linked articles/videos:

- How growing up without a dad affects
- Discrimination for wealth and ethnicity
- passion from a young age