

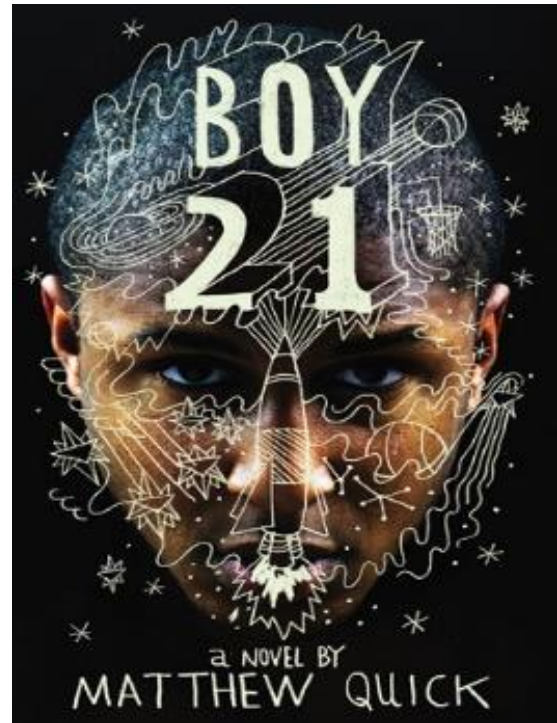
English 1, Level 2E (N201132)

Boy 21, Matthew Quick

ISBN-10: 0316127965

For Finley McManus, basketball serves as both identity and escape. Finley and his longtime girlfriend, Erin Quinn (“probably the best girls’ player in the state—no exaggeration”), work tirelessly on their games. Their plan is to have a successful senior season, graduate, and then move far away from Belmont. Finley’s world is shaken, though, when one of the top ranked point guards in the nation transfers in. He refers to himself as BOY21. (from The New York Times Book Review)

Boy21, Matthew Quick’s beautiful novel set in the fictional working- class, Irish-mob-influenced town of Belmont, is more than a first-rate novel fueled by basketball: it’s a first-rate work of art.



After you read *Boy21*, answer each of the following questions by writing a thoughtful, detailed paragraph (three paragraphs total). Be prepared to show your teacher your responses.

- Who is the most interesting character in this book? Why?
- What is the most important place in this story? Why?
- To which scene did you have the strongest emotional reaction? Why?