

**Accelerated English II**  
**Summer Reading Assignments**  
**New Albany High School**

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**TEXT:**           *Cold Sassy Tree* by Olive Ann Burns

**FORMATTING:**   File name should include both your first and last name.

Each assignment should have a heading beginning on the first line of the top left-hand corner of the document. The heading should include the student's name, the name of the text (underlined), and the assignment number.

**GRADE VALUE:**   The assignment folder counts as a 100 point major grade. It is due the second day of school; your grade will drop a letter grade for each day the assignment is late.

Also, a test will be given on this novel in the first weeks of school. Students will need to bring the books to class during the first weeks of school.

Students should thoroughly read the book, not just one of the many summaries that are widely available.

Students should do their own work on the summer assignments. Copying the work of other students or material that is available on the internet is considered plagiarism and will result in a grade of zero.

Students may discuss the novel with classmates, but should not work in groups to complete assignments. For videos, students may use other students, family, or friends as participants, but not as collaborators in the planning or production. One purpose of the summer assignments is for the teacher to get a sense of each student's personal voice and writing style.

Students should use their best organizational and writing skills and proofread carefully for grammatical errors. Be sure to follow all instructions.

## Assignments for *Cold Sassy Tree* by Olive Ann Burns:

1. **(50 points)** Character development is essential to this novel. The reader begins to understand the different inhabitants of Cold Sassy through Will's omniscient knowledge of them. In fact, Will is often privy to private information about the characters that no one else knows. Trace these "secrets" that Will learns about different townspeople and /or family members.

A. Document at least five such secrets. Write the passage containing the secret and cite the page number.

B. Paraphrase the passages in one full paragraph each. Each paragraph should include a comment on how the secret indirectly characterizes the individual who holds it.

2. **(50 points)** Choose **ONE** of the following options.

### **OPTION 1:**

Create a news segment **or** newspaper article reporting **ONE** of the following events from *Cold Sassy Tree* by Olive Ann Burns.

- Will Tweedy's encounter on the train trestle
- The arrival of the automobile in Cold Sassy, Georgia
- Grandpa Tweedy's "fun"-eral

The news piece must be accurate to the text (historical context, details from the novel, etc.) and should include eyewitness interviews.

Video – 3-5 minutes

Newspaper article – 500-750 words

### **OR**

### **OPTION 2:**

Create a commercial **or** print advertisement for Blakeslee Automobiles. Use the details from the text, including the promotions and related products used in the novel. The advertisement must be accurate to the text (historical context, details from the novel, etc.) and should be both persuasive and informative.

Commercial video - 2-3 minutes

Print advertisement - include both text (250-400 words) and images