***The Crazy Horse Electric Game* Accelerated Reading Assignment**

**The following are some topics to explore as we read the novel.**

1. Choose 2 topics for Chapters 1-10 **(Due on Friday, November 11th, 2016)**
2. Choose another 2 topics for Chapters 11-21 **(Due on Tuesday, November 29th)**
3. Answer all questions for your topic in complete sentences. Each should be 1-2 paragraphs in length.
   1. Write or type the topic and copy the question(s), writing your answer underneath each question.
   2. Your topic sentence for each response must include key terms from the question to show that you read and understand the question (ie-CLAIM).
   3. Your answer must use specific examples (ie- DIRECT QUOTES) from the novel when answering each question.
   4. You must explain how your example answers the question (ie- WARRANTS).
   5. Make connections to your own life experience in your answers when applicable (ie- REFLECT).

***(Responses should be typed in MLA Format. They can be turned in via email OR printed off and handed in)***

**Topic 1: Family**

Chapters 1-10

* How has tragedy already impacted Willie's family in the beginning of the story? What effect does it have on his parents and their relationship?
* Review the argument that Willie's mother and father have in Chapter 9? What are they arguing about and how does their argument change Willie's view of his family? (This is the argument after Willie's racquetball match with his dad.)

Chapters 11-21

* What is the story behind the bus driver's family? How might this explain his willingness to help out Willie?
* What kind of "family" does Willie form while he is California? Identify at least three characters who support him the most at OMLC?

**Topic 2: Childhood vs Adulthood**

Chapters 1-10

* Explain Willie’s childhood, providing details about events that have occurred (up until he gets on the Greyhound bus).
* What are some fundamental (basic) differences between children and adults? Look at behavior, beliefs, learning, morality, etc. What kind of relationships do the differences create between children and adults? Use examples from the novel.

Chapters 11-20

* How is Willie like a child? How is Willie like an adult? What forces Willie to be adultlike? Is there a moral question that arises when adults don’t live up to the expectations placed on them as parents?
* How do the adults in the novel struggle with adulthood and parenthood? For what reasons?

**Topic 3: Leadership**

Chapters 1-10

* Identify characteristics of good and bad leaders in your life. Are there examples in current society which may provide insight into why those characteristics are good or bad?
* How does Willie display leadership qualities in the first half of the novel? Do any other characters display leadership characteristics? Which ones and how do they demonstrate these?

Chapters 11-20

* How does Willie develop as a leader? What sorts of decisions or choices must he make? What are the results of those decisions?
* How does being a leader change responsibilities or actions? How can it change a person? How might it change you? How does being in a leadership role affect behavior and perspective?

**Topic 4: Human Nature**

Chapters 1-10

* What emotions, behaviors, beliefs, etc. make us human? Include negatives as well as positives.
* What events thus far in the novel allow these emotions and behaviors, to be dealt with? How are Willie’s (and others’) actions justifiably human?

Chapters 11-20

* What questions emerge regarding the moral implications of being human? How do we justify our behaviors while still judging others?
* How can Willie’s experiences with the Jo Boys provide insight into possible areas of growth or understanding?
* Describe examples of Human Nature in the final chapters of the book.

**Topic 5: Understanding Differences**

Chapters 1-10

* Where does Willie feel most different thus far in the novel? Why does he feel so different? What decisions does he make because of his struggles with feeling different?
* How do people deal with differences? What are the prominent differences that we pay attention to today? How are these unifying or divisive?

Chapters 11-20

* How are differences: racial, cultural, gendered, physical, intellectual; dealt with in the novel? What conclusions does Willie reach, particularly in terms of his family?
* Have you ever felt different? Discuss a moment in your life, whether at home or school, where you felt like an outsider. How does this moment compare to a moment in Willie’s life?

**Topic 6: Morality**

Chapters 1-10

* What responsibilities do individuals have toward other people? (race, gender, culture, humanity) How should these responsibilities figure into our behavior and beliefs?
* What moral codes exist in our society? What is right and wrong, and how do we determine them in any given situation? Where do our moral beliefs come from?

Chapters 11-20

* What moral questions are posed in the novel? How are they dealt with? What answers, if any, are provided? How is Willie’s existence, behavior, and motivation a moral dilemma for both him and those around him (parents, teachers, friends, etc.)
* How might the moral issues of the novel be dealt with in our present society? Who would we hold responsible for the things that happened?