*My Books of Bokonon*

Mr. Gathman • English 8

Directions: This project will be made up of 10 different sections connecting your life to the ideas of Bokononism. This should be a collection of self-reflection, images, poetry, and future plans. Your project will be included in your portfolio as the final section of the Senior Capstone Project.

Each section must be a minimum of 1 page long and contain all other requirements listed below

Section 1: *The First Book of Bokononism*: “Live by the *foma*\* that make you brave and kind and healthy and happy” (Vonnegut frontispiece).

*As a graduating senior, what are your foma for the underclassmen?*

Section 2: *The Sixth Book of Bokononism*: “*The Sixth Book* of *The Books of Bokonon* is devoted to pain, in particular to tortures inflicted by men on men” (263).

*Respond to these words in relation to the modern world.*

Section 3: *The Seventh Book of Bokononism*: “I directed our conversation into the area of Utopias…Bokonon had been there, too, had written a whole book about Utopias” (284).

*Explore your ideas for a perfect world.*

Section 4: *The Fourteenth Book of Bokononism*: “‘What Can a Thoughtful Man Hope for Mankind on Earth, Given the Experience of the Past Million Years?’” (245).

*Answer the question more completely than Bokonon.*

Section 5: The Calypsos: “I wanted all things / To seem to make some sense, / So we could all be happy, yes, / Instead of tense. / And I made up lies / So that they all fit nice” (127).

*Create 2 or more 10+ line rhyming Calypsos based on your first four sections.*

Section 6: My Karass: A “*karass* ignores national, institutional, occupational, familial, and class boundaries” (2-3).

*Explain your karass and its members.*

Section 7: My Wampeter: “Whatever it is, the members of its *karass* revolve about it…a *karass* actually has two *wampeters*—one waxing in importance, one waning” (52).

*As high school comes to an end, comment on your karass’ wampeter.*

Section 8: My Granfalloon: A “seeming team that was meaningless in terms of the ways God gets things done…If you wish to study a *granfalloon*, / Just remove the skin of a toy balloon” (91-92).

*Describe and explain a granfalloon you have belonged to in your life.*

Section 9: My Zah-mah-kibo: “‘You want a simple answer?...Fate—inevitable destiny’” (184).

*Write about where your life is headed.*

Section 10: My Final Sentence: “‘The time for the final sentence has come’…This is what I read” (287).

*What do you want to be your final words in this class as you head into the future?*

You will be presenting this project to the class – your presentation needs to be 4:45 to 5:15 minutes long.

Final Reminders: Each section of this project must be complete in order to receive credit

Each section of the Capstone Project must be complete in order to pass English 8

English 8 is required to graduate from Burke High School