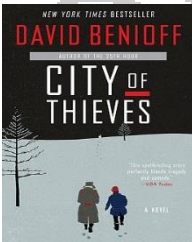




**Fr. Michael Goetz Library Learning Commons  
Teacher's Book Review**



***City of Thieves*, David Benioff**  
Reviewed by Ms. Tyndorf, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012.

This story has all the elements that I find exciting: historical setting, humour, unforgettable characters, action, adventure and a little romance. It is the captivating odyssey of two young men trying to survive against desperate odds during the siege of Leningrad in WWII: Lev small, smart, and insecure, too young for the army and Kolya, a flamboyant handsome Russian ladies' man, who is coolly reckless in the face of danger. Both are arrested by the Russian home guard and must face Colonel Grechko, the Russian military leader of the town. They expect a bullet in the head, but shockingly are given a reprieve: the condition is that they must acquire a dozen eggs for the colonel's daughter's wedding cake.

The book is called *City of Thieves* and it's by David Benioff and it is a page-turner. Benioff blends tense adventure and a poignant-- and often funny-- developing of an unlikely friendship between Lev and Kolya as they attempt to complete their impossible task in Leningrad--where the populace is starving!