ISU – Funny Boy by Shyam Selvadurai

DATE: 5 October 2012

PAGES: 1-21

CHARACTERS: Protagonist Arjie, 7 year old boy, various cousins, Arjie’s father and grandparents.

SETTING: Sri Lanka in 1983 during the Civil war. The backyard of Arjie’s grandparents.

PLOT DEVELOPMENT: The novel begins with the “spend-the-days” (2), in which the grandchildren visit together at Ammachi and Appachi’s (grandparents’) home. Arjie and his female cousins play their usual game of “bride-bride,” which is interrupted when one cousin refuses to let Arjie’s be the bride. The adults find the children and figure out their game, and one uncle tells Arjie’s father “you have a funny one here” (14). Arjie is no longer allowed to play with the girls. When he asks his mother, she responds with “because the sky is so high and pigs can’t fly, that’s why” (19).

* Be sure to include the page numbers
* Record all characters involved
* Note the setting, time and place(s)
* Paraphrase what you have read
* Include quotes and page numbers but be sure to manage your time effectively
* If this is your own copy, underline or highlight significant details/quotes