

Advocating for Global Health - *Between Shades of Gray* x Underreported Stories

Draft an advocacy piece to synthesize content from *Between Shades of Gray*, the global health story [Could a Conflict-Borne Superbug Bring on our Next Pandemic?](#), your critical thinking reflections, and ideas from any other sources you choose. Your piece should allude to historical conflicts, stories of war, and the ways that a changing world demands more attention to this global health threat. Post your final piece on [Padlet](#). You may work with a partner or on your own!

[Option A: Advocating via Letter Writing](#)

[Option B: Advocacy via Infographic-Style Flyer](#)

[Option C: Advocacy via “Talking Head” Video](#)

OPTION A: Draft a 1-2 page letter or email to an appropriate recipient to advocate that more attention be given to the global threat of AMR, and especially cases that originate in conflict zones. Your letter should synthesize content from *Between Shades of Gray*, the global health story [Could a Conflict-Borne Superbug Bring on our Next Pandemic?](#), your critical thinking reflections, and ideas from any other sources you choose. Your letter should allude to historical conflicts, stories of war, and the ways that a changing world demands more attention to this global health threat. Post your letter on [Padlet](#).

Format: Here is a three-paragraph structure model, adapted from a [Pulitzer Center](#) template:

I. Introduction about why you are writing the letter, including your reading of and interest in Ruta Sepetys’s novel *Between Shades of Gray*. Next, briefly summarize the global health issue at hand, citing the Pulitzer Center news story [“Could a Conflict-Borne Superbug Bring on our Next Pandemic?”](#) Feel free to include and cite another article, site, text, or source as appropriate.

II. Explanation of how this global issue connects to you and your community, and/or to you personally. Embed information, quotations, or other facts and data from any other sources or the novel as you see fit.

III. Suggestion of what action you would like your chosen representative to take to resolve this issue, or otherwise improve related conditions.

*Remember that specific organizations and representatives are alluded to in the under-reported story, especially in the final paragraphs! Review the Pulitzer Center student letter models.

OPTION B: Draft an infographic-style flyer with text, graphics, quotes, and images to raise awareness about the ways that wartime conflict in far-away places is contributing to the spread of AMR and how your peers can take action to alert appropriate people in power. Your infographic-style flyer should synthesize *Between Shades of Gray*, the global health story [“Could a](#)

[Conflict-Borne Superbug Bring on our Next Pandemic?](#), your critical thinking reflections, and ideas from any other sources you choose. Your flyer should also allude to historical conflicts, stories of war, and the ways that a changing world demands more attention to this global health threat. Post your flyer on [Padlet](#).

Format: You may choose to use Canva, Google Slides, or another platform that allows you to get your message across. Be sure to include the following elements:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Title | <input type="checkbox"/> Statistics and Facts | <input type="checkbox"/> A color scheme |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Subtitle | <input type="checkbox"/> Graphics | <input type="checkbox"/> A QR code |

Your QR Code should provide a link to additional resources, information, or the Pulitzer Center article. [This website](#) offers some great ideas, models, and explanations of the essential elements of an effective infographic-style flyer.

OPTION C: Draft a 2.5-minute “talking head” video to inform others about AMR, share that it is an increasing global threat, and explain what your audience can do to raise awareness and combat this problem before it becomes a crisis. The video should synthesize *Between Shades of Gray*, the global health story [“Could a Conflict-Borne Superbug Bring on our Next Pandemic?”](#), your critical thinking reflections, and ideas from any other sources you choose. Your video should also allude to historical conflicts, stories of war, and the ways that a changing world demands more attention to this global health threat. Post your video on [Padlet](#).

Format: You may choose to use your phone, laptop, Padlet’s video feature, or any other video recording platform you are comfortable with to record your video. If you want to edit in text, graphics, or sound features, you may wish to use CapCut or iMovie. Be sure to include the following elements:

- ☐ A spoken script with a clear purpose, audience, and actionable steps.
- ☐ A basic plot structure (introduction, hook, rising action, climax, resolution)
- ☐ A conversational tone
- ☐ Effective lighting and sound quality

The best “talking head” videos use storytelling, demonstrate energy and passion, speak to the audience’s emotions, and use repetition to emphasize their point. [“Talking-head Videos: Complete Guide With Examples & Tips.”](#) from *Riverside* offers some great ideas, models, and explanations of the essential elements of an effective “talking head” video.