The Glass Castle
The Glass Castle... is a memoir.

A collection of memories that an individual writes about moments or events that took place in their past.

In this new unit, you will read and write a memoir.
"A memoir is how one remembers one's own life, while an autobiography is history, requiring research, dates, facts double-checked."

**Autobiography:**
- 1st Person
- Summarizes a life in whole

**Memoir:**
- 1st Person
- Narrower focus on moments in a life
Jeanette Walls...
is the author of
The Glass Castle.
She’s an American writer and gossip journalist.
"what is your take on "memoirists" who fudge details or even make things up wholesale, without letting the reader know? Is it a major betrayal of the reader, or should we expect memoirs to be somewhat subjective?"

"Of course memoirs are subjective. That's the genre--this is one person's perspective on his or her life -- and I think it's one that most readers understand. None of my siblings have contradicted a single fact in *The Glass Castle*, but if any of them had written about our lives, it would have had an entirely different tone and perspective."
The Glass Castle

is the story of Jeanette’s unconventional upbringing.

“She'd grown up both loved and neglected by parents who embraced adventure and ignored basic responsibility... her father dreamed big and drank even bigger... and as her family drifted from place to place, she and her siblings often had to use their own ingenuity to remain clothed, fed, housed, and healthy.”
Jeanette was born on April 21, 1960 in Phoenix, Arizona.

She lived with her family in cars and hotels for much of her childhood.

You won’t believe some of the wild events that she describes in her book!
Her parents embraced 60’s and 70’s “counterculture”.

Counterculture of the 1960s was identified with the rejection of conventional social norms of the 1950s.
Parents Rex and Rose Mary Walls
“To me, the whole point of writing a memoir is to say, here is the story of my life, and maybe you can learn something from my experience without actually having to go through it.”