

AP English Literature and Composition Mrs. Salley

Summer Reading—June 2021 Welcome to AP Lit!

First, I want to welcome you to AP Lit and share my excitement about the class. Our focus will be on reading literature, writing about literature, and discussing literature. We will examine poetry, short fiction, long fiction, and drama. The works will encompass canonical through contemporary. Hopefully, with this broad spectrum, there will be something that everyone will love. As well, I want to help you write insightfully, persuasively, and eloquently without laboring too long on the assignments. We will start with shorter essays and work together to complete them. I realize you may not have been able to work on your college essay; I will give you time and attention on this topic. Let's proceed with hope and good intentions for the summer and the coming school year! If I can answer any questions you have about the course, do not hesitate to contact me. My email is as follows: salley_christy@mybps.us

Reading

To give us a running start on our work for next fall, you will have a reading assignment to complete over the summer. In the past I have asked students to read both *East of Eden* by John Steinbeck and *The Poisonwood Bible* by Barbara Kingsolver. However, I am asking for at least one of these novels (your choice) to be completed. If you have the time and inclination, I suggest you read both. The novels are wonderful reading and are the basis for opening discussions and an in-class writing assignment.

Quotes

In the early days of AP Lit we will learn to approach fiction through an examination of the individual elements that comprise the work, appreciating that each element is a conscious choice of the author. To get us started, I'd like you to select four quotes from the book you choose, representing four of these major elements: **setting, character, symbolism, and style** (we'll leave point of view and plot/structure till later). Find a quote that exemplifies each element and write a brief comment about what you notice or what you think the author was trying to achieve.

IF...you have extra, extra time on your hands this summer, I highly recommend picking up the Bible and reading Genesis and Exodus and/or brushing up on *Mythology* by Edith Hamilton (Parts 1, 2, 4, 5). You will more readily understand the allusions in works we will read this year, including your summer reading.