

English III Summer Reading

English III, Advanced English III, Honors English III

(if you are taking AP Language and Composition please see Ms. Satterfield for your assignment)

Clearview Regional High School District develops its curriculum in order to best serve the district's mission and meet the subject-area benchmarks established by NCLB and other local, state and national criteria for curriculum development. We recognize that adolescence through young-adulthood is a time when students of the same age are at different maturity levels, so the selection of materials is undertaken with care and deliberation. The English Department selects literary texts that reflect a diversity of perspectives, are age-appropriate, are high quality literature and are useful to fulfill the district's mission and the course's benchmarks. Parents are encouraged to investigate the texts explored by their children; we urge parents to take an active role in helping our students to develop admiration for the elegance and richness of human expression.

Recognizing that not all works are appropriate for all students, texts identified with an (*) contain mature or sensitive language or issues; parents or guardians may wish to preview texts prior to student participation.

Choose **one** novel from the list below. A synopsis of each title is attached. Please read through the synopsis to find something that you are interested in. Your assignment (that will count as a **QUIZ GRADE**) is on the last page of this packet. Honors students have a secondary assignment that is described beneath the reading list.

Any questions issues or problems please contact any of the 11th grade teachers listed below:

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A plus sign (+) indicates easier reading choices

Title	Author
The Lovely Bones*	Alice Sebold
Interview With a Vampire	Ann Rice
Gift From The Sea	Anne Morrow Lindberg
North To The Orient	Anne Morrow Lindberg
Running With Scissors*	Augusten Burroughs
Nickel and Dimed	Barbara Ehrenreich
Walmart Effect	Charles Fishman
Eragon	Christopher Paolini
The Road	Cormac McCarthy
You Don't Know Me	David Klaur
TickTock	Dean Koontz
Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy	Douglas Adams
A New Earth	Eckhart Tolle
The Power of Now	Eckhart Tolle
Crank*+	Ellen Hopkins
Chew On This	Eric Schlosser

A Lesson Before Dying*	Ernest J. Gaines
Weetzie Bat+	Francesca Lia Block
Confessions of An Ugly Stepsister	Gregory Maguire
Mirror, Mirror	Gregory Maguire
Son of A Witch	Gregory Maguire
Wicked	Gregory Maguire
A Million Little Pieces*	James Frey
19 Minutes*	Jodi Picoult
My Sister's Keeper*	Jodi Picoult
Profiles In Courage	John F. Kennedy
Everything Is Illuminated	Jonathon Safer Foer
Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close	Jonathon Safer Foer
Big Mouth and Ugly Girl	Joyce Carol Oates
A Thousand Splendid Suns	Khaled Hasseini
Green Rider	Kristen Britain
Cat's Cradle	Kurt Vonnegut
Speak(+)	Laurie Halse Anderson
A Great and Terrible Beauty	Libba Bray
Just Who Will You Be?	Maria Shriver
Measure of A Man	Martin Luther King, Jr.
A Yellow Raft in Blue Water	Michael Dorris
The Five People You Meet in Heaven*	Mitch Albolm
One More Day*	Mitch Albolm
Kindred	Octavia Butler
Mr. Vertigo*	Paul Auster
An Ordinary Man	Paul Rusesabagina
Someday This Pain Will Be Useful To You	Peter Cameron
The Golden Compass+	Philip Pullman
Zen and The Art of Motorcycle Maintenance	Robert Pirsig
Tears of a Tiger*	Sharon M. Draper
Perks of Being A Wallflower*	Stephen Chlosky
Misery	Steven King
Secret Life of Bees*	Sue Monk Kidd
The Mermaid Chair	Sue Monk Kidd
A Wizard's First Rule	Terry Goodkind
I Know This Much Is True	Wally Lamb

Honors III students will have additional required text(s). All students taking this course are required to read *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury and one other text from the English 11 Summer Reading List. Even students who transfer into the course during the summer are required to complete the work.

Honors English III is a rigorous class designed for the independent, intellectually curious students who excel at and enjoy reading and writing. Mrs. Caputo, Mrs. Lafferty, and Mrs. Datz designed this course to provide an appreciation and understanding of the American experience through exploration of American literature. This course of study is designed to provide an appreciation and understanding of the American experience through exploration of American literature. The purpose of this course is to refine reading comprehension, further develop analytical, narrative, and persuasive writing skills, and to reach an understanding of the impact of genre on meaning. We will also explore various critical approaches to the study of literature. Students will hone their research skills, refine their ability to assess source credibility, and integrate primary and secondary source materials into their writing. Furthermore, the aim of the course is to develop verbal articulation and critical viewing/listening skills.

We will explore the following themes: the search for American identity, intolerance in American society, the search for the individual, the “American Dream,” and the varieties of ethnic/socio-economic/racial/gender experiences in American culture. Relevant topics of history, art, and social criticism will be integrated to enhance the students’ experience and understanding of the American heritage.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- ✓ All assignments are due on Monday, September 13, 2010.
- ✓ All work must be typed. (Times New Roman, 12pt font, double-spaced)
- ✓ Once class meets in September, students are required to create an account at www.turnitin.com to verify authenticity of written work. Directions and passwords will be provided during the first week of school.

ASSIGNMENT FOR *Fahrenheit 451*:

Analytical Essay

Select **one** from the following two essay topics. Formulate a thesis, use textual evidence to support your arguments, and present your argument paper in MLA format.

1. Consider Bradbury’s treatment of the two primary female characters, Clarisse and Mildred. What is the significance of both characters’ premature deaths? Analyze the different language Bradbury uses when discussing Mildred and when discussing Clarisse. What do these linguistic differences convey about Bradbury’s attitude toward his female characters?
2. Has Bradbury’s vision of America, first published in 1952, become our reality? Remember to consider symbolic and metaphorical connections between present-day America and the book; avoid literal parallels. Use specific examples from contemporary social, political, or cultural life to support your assertions.

What are these books about????

***The Lovely Bones** Alice Sebold**

When we first meet Susie Salmon, she is already in heaven. As she looks down from this strange new place, she tells us, in the fresh and spirited voice of a fourteen-year-old girl, a tale that is both haunting and full of hope. In the weeks following her death, Susie watches life on Earth continuing without her—her school friends trading rumors about her disappearance, her family holding out hope that she'll be found, her killer trying to cover his tracks.

***Interview With A Vampire* Ann Rice**

In the now-classic novel *Interview with the Vampire*, Anne Rice refreshed the archetypal vampire myth for a late-20th-century audience. The story is seemingly a simple one: having suffered a tremendous personal loss, an 18th-century Louisiana plantation owner named Louis Pointe du Lac descends into an alcoholic stupor. At his emotional lowest point, he is confronted by Lestat, a charismatic and powerful vampire who chooses Louis to be his fledgling. The two prey on innocence, give their "dark gift" to a young girl, and seek out others of their kind (notably the ancient vampire Armand) in Paris.

***Gift From The Sea* Anne Morrow Lindbergh**

In this unique, beloved classic—graceful, clear and lyrical—Anne Morrow Lindbergh shares her meditations on youth and age; love and marriage; peace, solitude and contentment as she set them down during a brief vacation by the sea. Drawing inspiration from the shells on the shore, Lindbergh's musings on the shape of a woman's life bring new understanding to both men and women at any stage of life.

***North To The Orient* Anne Morrow Lindbergh**

In 1931 Charles and Anne Morrow Lindbergh set off on a flight to the Orient by the Great Circle Route. The classic *North to the Orient* is the beautifully written account of the trip.

***Running With Scissors: A Memoir** Augusten Burroughs**

There were certainly numerous problems in the childhood that Burroughs describes: an alcoholic father, an unstable mother who gives him up for adoption to her therapist, and an adolescence spent as part of the therapist's eccentric extended family. Burroughs employs a vigorous program of decoration and keen polishing to a life that many would have simply thrown in a landfill. It's ultimately a feel-good story: as he steers through a challenging childhood, there's always a sense that Burroughs's survivor mentality will guide him through.

***Nickel and Dimed* Barbara Ehrenreich**

Essayist and cultural critic Barbara Ehrenreich has always specialized in turning received wisdom on its head with intelligence, clarity, and verve. With some 12 million women being pushed into the labor market by welfare reform, she decided to do some good old-fashioned journalism and find out just how they were going to survive on the wages of the unskilled—at \$6 to \$7 an hour, only half of what is considered a living wage. So she did what millions of Americans do, she looked for a job and a place to live, worked that job, and tried to make ends meet.

***Walmart Effect* Charles Fishman**

The "Wal-Mart effect" has become a common phrase in the vocabulary of economists and includes a broad range of effects, such as forcing local competitors out of business, driving down wages, and keeping inflation low and productivity high. On a global scale, Wal-Mart's relentless commitment to "everyday low prices" has had a massive impact on the trend toward importing from countries like China and the resultant loss of manufacturing jobs here. Because of its strict policy on secrecy, surprisingly little is known about the inside workings of the largest corporation ever in the U.S and now the world..

***Eragon* Christopher Paolini**

Fifteen-year-old Eragon believes that he is merely a poor farm boy—until his destiny as a Dragon Rider is revealed. Gifted with only an ancient sword, a loyal dragon, and sage advice from an old storyteller, Eragon is soon swept into a dangerous tapestry of magic, glory, and power. Now his choices could save—or destroy—the Empire.

***The Road* Cormac McCarthy**

In this stunning departure from his previous work, McCarthy envisions a postapocalyptic scenario. Cities have been destroyed, plants and animals have died, and few humans survive. The sun is hidden by ash, and it is winter. With every scrap of food looted, many of the living have turned to cannibalism. The man and the boy plod toward the sea. The man remembers the world before; as his memories die, so, too dies that world. The boy was born after everything changed.

***You Don't Know Me* David Klaur**

At 14, John feels trapped in a life that he says "is not a life." Who could argue? Consider the facts: his father—who (he says) named him after a toilet—vanished when John was four; his mother, who works soul-destroying double shifts in a factory, is nearly always absent. What's worse, the man who moved in six months ago and whom Mom plans to marry abuses John routinely. As a result, the highly imaginative teen lives mostly in his head and understandably feels that no one knows him.

***TickTock* Dean Koontz**

Tommy Phan is a successful detective novelist, living the American Dream in southern California. One evening he comes home to find a small rag doll on his doorstep. It's a simple doll, covered entirely in white cloth, with crossed black stitches for the eyes and mouth, and another pair forming an X over the heart. Curious, he brings it inside. That night, Tommy hears an odd popping sound and looks up to see the stitches breaking over the doll's heart. And in minutes the fabric of Tommy Phan's reality will be torn apart. Something terrifying emerges from the pristine white cloth, something that will follow Tommy wherever he goes. Something that he can't destroy

***Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* Douglas Adams**

Seconds before the Earth is demolished to make way for a galactic freeway, Arthur Dent is plucked off the planet by his friend Ford Prefect, a researcher for the revised edition of *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* who, for the last fifteen years, has been posing as an out-of-work actor. Together this dynamic pair begin a journey through space aided by quotes from *The Hitchhiker's Guide* ("A towel is about the most massively useful thing an interstellar hitchhiker can have") and a galaxy-full of fellow travelers.

***A New Earth* Eckhart Tolle**

In *A New Earth*, Tolle shows how transcending our ego-based state of consciousness is not only essential to personal happiness, but also the key to ending conflict and suffering throughout the world. Tolle describes how our attachment to the ego creates the dysfunction that leads to anger, jealousy, and unhappiness, and shows readers how to awaken to a new state of consciousness and follow the path to a truly fulfilling existence.

***The Power of Now* Eckhart Tolle**

Eckhart Tolle's message is simple: living in the *now* is the truest path to happiness and enlightenment. And while this message may not seem stunningly original or fresh, Tolle's clear writing, supportive voice, and enthusiasm make this an excellent manual for anyone who's ever wondered what exactly "living in the now" means.

Crank*+ Ellen Hopkins

Like the teenage crack user in the film *Traffic*, the young addict in this wrenching, cautionary debut lives in a comfortable, advantaged home with caring parents. Sixteen-year-old Kristina first tries crank, or crystal meth, while visiting her long-estranged father, a crank junkie. Bree is Kristina's imagined, bolder self, who flirts outrageously and gets high without remorse, and when Kristina returns to her mother and family in Reno, it's Bree who makes connections with edgy guys and other crank users that escalate into full-blown addiction and heartrending consequences.

Chew On This Eric Schlosser

The author dishes up a somewhat-less-stomach-churning look at the fast-food industry's growth, practices, and effects on public health. Folding in original interviews, recent statistics, and published research, along with such spicy taglines as "The Golden Arches are now more widely recognized than the Christian cross," they trace the hamburger's early years and the evolution of the McDonald's Corporation's revolutionary Speedee Service System.

A Lesson Before Dying* Ernest J. Gaines

Jefferson, a young black, is accused of killing the white owner of a liquor store in a small Cajun Louisiana community in the late 1940s. Although his lawyer argues that such a lowly form of existence is no more capable of premeditated murder than a hog, Jefferson is condemned to death. Grant Wiggins, a black teacher at the plantation school, is persuaded to impart something of himself, of his learning and pride, to Jefferson before his death -- to prove the lawyer wrong. Through no choice of their own, the two men come together and form a bond in the realization that sometimes simply choosing to resist the expected is an act of heroism.

Weetzie Bat+ Francesca Lia Block

A brief, off-beat tale that has great charm, poignancy, and touches of fantasy. Weetzie, now 23, is a child of Hollywood who hated high school but loves the memories of Marilyn Monroe and Charlie Chaplin, plastic palm-tree wallets, and the roller-skating waitresses at Tiny Naylor's. Nobody understands her, least of all her divorced bicoastal parents, until she meets Dirk, who takes her slamdancing at the hot clubs in L.A. in his red '55 Pontiac. When he tells her he's gay, they decide to go "duck-hunting" together. He meets his ideal blond surfer, and Weetzie finds her Secret Agent Lover Man. So Weetzie makes three wishes, and they all come true...

Wicked Gregory Maguire

When Dorothy triumphed over the Wicked Witch of the West in L. Frank Baum's classic tale, we heard only her side of the story. But what about her arch-nemesis, the mysterious witch? Where did she come from? How did she become so wicked? And what is the true nature of evil? Gregory Maguire creates a fantasy world so rich and vivid that we will never look at Oz the same way again. Wicked is about a land where animals talk and strive to be treated like first-class citizens, Munchkinlanders seek the comfort of middle-class stability and the Tin Man becomes a victim of domestic violence. And then there is the little green-skinned girl named Elphaba, who will grow up to be the infamous Wicked Witch of the West, a smart, prickly and misunderstood creature who challenges all our preconceived notions about the nature of good and evil.

Son of a Witch Gregory Maguire

Son picks up where Maguire's highly successful *Wicked* (HarperCollins, 1995) left off, with the death of Elphaba the Wicked Witch of the West. She left behind a daughter, Nor, and Liir, who may or may not be her son. After her death, he enters into a decade of listless soul searching. An odd series of disfiguring murders starts occurring all across Oz. Wielding Elphaba's flying broom and donning her magical cape, Liir makes some small but bold gestures that help the populace of Oz and replants the seeds of hope that Elphaba spread a generation before.

***Mirror, Mirror* Gregory Maguire**

Maguire writes for children and adults about witches and evil stepmothers, and his novel *Wicked* (1996) is now a Broadway musical. Wickedness is certainly the dynamic in this retelling of the Snow White fairy tale, set in early sixteenth-century Italy, where vice and corruption are commonplace for everyone from the pope to the brutal military conqueror Cesare Borgia.

***Confessions of An Ugly Stepsister* Gregory Maguire**

What were Cinderella's wicked stepmother and the ugly stepsisters really like? Maguire has come up with a fascinating hypothesis in this logical retelling of the classic tale from a different point of view. Recently arrived from England, the Dutch-born widow Margarethe and her two children, ungainly and seemingly slow-witted Ruth and plain but intelligent Iris, move into the social mix that is Haarlem in the 17th century. Soon after her arrival, she marries a newly widowed tulip merchant with one child.

***A Million Little Pieces** James Frey**

Frey's high school and college years are a blur of alcohol and drugs, culminating in a full-fledged crack addiction at age 23. As the book begins, his fed-up friends have convinced an airline to let him on the plane and shipped him off to his parents, who promptly put him in Hazelden, the rehabilitation clinic with the greatest success rate, 20 percent. Frey doesn't shy away from the gory details of addiction and recovery; all of the bodily fluids make major appearances here.

***19 Minutes** Jodi Picoult**

Picoult considers the tragedy--in 19 quick minutes, 10 are dead and 19 are wounded--from several different perspectives, including that of the shooter, a troubled boy named Peter, who was mercilessly picked on at school. The small town of Sterling is rocked by the carnage. Alex Cormier is the superior court judge planning to hear the case, but her daughter, Josie, Peter's only friend during childhood but now a member of the in crowd, was in the midst of the melee. Peter spared Josie, but killed her boyfriend.

***My Sister's Keeper** Jodi Picoult**

Thirteen-year-old Anna Fitzgerald walks into the office of lawyer Campbell Alexander and announces she wants to sue her parents for the rights to her own body. Anna was conceived after her older sister, Kate, developed a rare form of leukemia at the age of two, and has donated bone marrow and blood to her sister. Now she has been asked to donate a kidney, and she intends to refuse. Anna refuses to budge on her position despite the fact that she clearly loves her sister and longs for her family's happiness.

***Profiles In Courage* John F. Kennedy**

During 1954-1955, John F. Kennedy, then a U.S. Senator, chose eight of his historical colleagues to profile for their acts of astounding integrity in the face of overwhelming opposition. These heroes include John Quincy Adams, Daniel Webster, Thomas Hart Benton, and Robert A. Taft.

***Everything Is Illuminated* Jonathon Safer Foer**

This highly imaginative debut novel features a protagonist with the same name as the author. The fictional Jonathan Safran Foer, also a writer, travels to Eastern Europe after his junior year in college. His mission, as he ventures through the farmlands, is to find Augustine, who may have saved the grandfather he never knew from the Nazis. Accompanying Jonathan on his quixotic quest is Alex, a young Ukrainian translator who speaks hilariously fractured English. The fabled history of his grandfather's shtetl, or village, is juxtaposed with events in the present using comedy interspersed with tragedy.

***Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close* Jonathon Safer Foer**

Nine-year-old Oskar Schell has embarked on an urgent, secret mission that will take him through the five boroughs of New York. His goal is to find the lock that matches a mysterious key that belonged to his father, who died in the World Trade Center on the morning of September 11. This seemingly impossible task will bring Oskar into contact with survivors of all sorts on an exhilarating, affecting, often hilarious, and ultimately healing journey.

***Big Mouth and Ugly Girl*+ Joyce Carol Oates**

Matt Donaghy's big mouth gets him a three-day suspension when "unnamed witnesses" allege that the Rocky River High School junior has threatened to bomb the school if his play isn't accepted for the Spring Arts Festival. Fortunately, his classmate Ursula Rigg, who calls herself "Ugly Girl," heard what he really said, and despite her parents' reservations, demonstrates the courage to come to his defense. An awkward friendship between the two self-styled misfits begins to develop but is threatened when Matt's parents sue the school system for slander.

***A Thousand Splendid Suns** Khaled Hosseini**

Hosseini's follow-up to his best-selling debut, *The Kite Runner* views the plight of Afghanistan during the last half-century through the eyes of two women. Mariam is the illegitimate daughter of a maid and a businessman, who is given away in marriage at 15 to Rasheed, a man three times her age; their union is not a loving one. Laila is born to educated, liberal parents in Kabul the night the Communists take over Afghanistan. Adored by her father but neglected in favor of her older brothers by her mother, Laila finds her true love early on in Tariq, a thoughtful, chivalrous boy who lost a leg in an explosion. But when tensions between the Communists and the *mujahideen* make the city unsafe, Tariq and his family flee to Pakistan. A devastating tragedy brings Laila to the house of Rasheed and Mariam, where she is forced to make a horrific choice to secure her future.

***Green Rider* Kristen Britain**

Britain's first novel is a classic quest tale set in a standardized medieval fantasy world. It begins when protagonist Karigan G'ladheon is expelled from an exclusive school. In a forest on the way home, she encounters one of the magically bound Green Riders, who carries a vital message for King Zachary. The messenger is dying with assassins' arrows in his back, so with more loyalty than caution, Karigan takes over his magic brooch. This also means taking over his mission and becoming a Green Rider herself, an act that flings Karigan into a cesspool of intrigues both magical and mundane, some of them well-handled by the author, some not.

***Cat's Cradle* Kurt Vonnegut**

Cat's Cradle, one of Vonnegut's most entertaining novels, is filled with scientists and G-men and even ordinary folks caught up in the game. These assorted characters chase each other around in search of the world's most important and dangerous substance, a new form of ice that freezes at room temperature.

***Speak**+ Laurie Halse Anderson**

Having broken up an end-of-summer party by calling the police, high-school freshman Melinda Sordino begins the school year as a social outcast. She's the only person who knows the real reason behind her call: she was raped at the party by Andy Evans, a popular senior at her school. Slowly, with the help of an eccentric and understanding art teacher, she begins to recover from the trauma, only to find Andy threatening her again.

***A Great and Terrible Beauty* Libba Bray**

Gemma Doyle is no ordinary nineteenth-century British teenager; she has disturbing visions. Upon finding the diary of a young student who was also a visionary of sorts, Gemma and three classmates, each of whom, like Gemma, has a personal demon to overcome, follow the diarist's lead and travel into the Realms, a place of both joy and danger.

***Just Who Will You Be?* Maria Shriver**

A candid, heartfelt, and inspirational book for seekers of all ages. Inspired by a speech she gave, Maria Shriver's message is that what you do in your life isn't what matters. It's who you are. It's an important lesson that will appeal to anyone of any age looking for a life of meaning. In her own life, Shriver always walked straight down her own distinctive path, achieving her childhood goal of becoming "award-winning network newswoman Maria Shriver". But when her husband was elected California's Governor and she suddenly had to leave her job at NBC News, Maria was thrown for a loop. *Just Who Will You Be?* reminds us that the answer to many of life's questions lie within -- and that we're all works in progress. That means it's never too late to become the person you want to be. Now the question for you is this: Just who will you be?

***Measure of A Man* Martin Luther King, Jr.**

Why nonviolence matters. Eloquent and passionate, reasoned and sensitive, this pair of meditations by the revered civil-rights leader contains the theological roots of his political and social philosophy of nonviolent activism.

***A Yellow Raft in Blue Water* Michael Dorris**

A powerful novel of three generations of American Indian women, each seeking her own identity while forever cognizant of family responsibilities, loyalty, and love. Rayona, half-Indian half-black daughter of Christine, reacts to feelings of rejection and abandonment by running away, not knowing that her mother had acted in a similar fashion some 15 years before. But family ties draw Rayona home to the Montana reservations they drew Christine, and as they had drawn Ida many years earlier. As the three recount their lives, often repeating incidents but adding new perspectives, a total picture emerges.

***The Five People You Meet in Heaven**+ Mitch Albom**

With an appropriately fable-like tone, Albom tells the story of Eddie, "an old man with a barrel chest." But for us, Eddie's story "begins at the end, with Eddie dying in the sun"--at Ruby Pier, an amusement park by the sea, where he spent most days, for despite his advanced years, he worked as a maintenance man on the rides. He dies on his eighty-third birthday trying to save a little girl from an accident. Eddie wakes up in heaven, where he is informed that "there are five people you meet in heaven. Each . . . was in your life for a reason. You may not have known the reason at the time, and that is what heaven is for. For understanding your life on earth." And, not surprisingly, this is what the novel is about: Eddie coming to appreciate his 83 years of mortal life.

***For One More Day** Mitch Albom**

In Albom's, second novel, retired baseball player Charley "Chick" Benetto—facing the pain of unfulfilled ambitions, alcohol abuse, divorce, and estrangement from a grown daughter—returns to his abandoned childhood home and attempts suicide in a bungling fit of rage. He encounters the spirit of his deceased mother, Pauline "Posey" Benetto, who Chick thoughtlessly took for granted during both his formative years as cocky athlete and his booze-soaked adulthood.

***Kindred* Octavia Butler**

Dana, a modern black woman, is celebrating her twenty-sixth birthday with her new husband when she is snatched abruptly from her home in California and transported to the antebellum South. Rufus, the white son of a plantation owner, is drowning, and Dana has been summoned to save him. Dana is drawn back again and again for Rufus, yet each time the stay grows longer and more dangerous until it is uncertain whether or not Dana's life will end, long before it has even begun.

***Mr. Vertigo** Paul Auster**

Rescued from the streets of St. Louis and taught to fly by Master Yehudi, Walter Rawley soon becomes a national sensation. The boy wonder foils a kidnapping by his evil uncle, but his powers of levitation suddenly wane with the onset of puberty, and he declines from miracle worker to Depression-era mobster.

***An Ordinary Man* Paul Rusesabagina**

Readers who were moved and horrified by *Hotel Rwanda* will respond even more intensely to Paul Rusesabagina's unforgettable autobiography. As Rwanda was thrown into chaos during the 1994 genocide, Rusesabagina, a hotel manager, turned the luxurious Hotel Milles Collines into a refuge for more than 1,200 Tutsi and moderate Hutu refugees, while fending off their would-be killers with a combination of diplomacy and deception.

***Someday This Pain Will Be Useful To You* Peter Cameron**

Though he's been accepted by Brown University, 18-year-old James isn't sure he wants to go to college. What he really wants is to buy a nice house in a small town somewhere in the Midwest—Indiana, perhaps. In the meantime, however, he has a dull, make-work job at his thrice-married mother's Manhattan art gallery, where he finds himself attracted to her assistant, an older man named John. In a clumsy attempt to capture John's attention, James winds up accused of sexual harassment!

***The Golden Compass+* Philip Pullman**

Philip Pullman's acclaimed epic novel about missing children, a golden, truth-divining compass and a young girl and her "daemon" who are catapulted into a life-and-death struggle against dark forces, is transformed into spellbinding theater for the imagination, thanks to a flawless British cast and Pullman's own narration.

***Zen and The Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* Robert Pirsig**

An unforgettable narration of a summer motorcycle trip across America's Northwest, undertaken by a father and his young son. A story of love and fear -- of growth, discovery, and acceptance -- that becomes a profound personal and philosophical odyssey into life's fundamental questions, this uniquely exhilarating modern classic is both touching and transcendent, resonant with the myriad confusions of existence . . . and the small, essential triumphs that propel us forward.

***Tears of a Tiger*+* Sharon M. Draper**

When star basketball player Robert Washington and his three closest friends mix drinking and driving in a postgame victory celebration, Robert is killed in an auto accident. The driver, Andy Jackson, is unable to resolve his feelings of guilt and remorse. Neither Andy's parents nor his psychologist accurately perceive the depth of Andy's depression, with tragic results--Andy, at the end, commits suicide. The story emerges through newspaper articles, journal entries, homework assignments, letters, and conversations that give the book immediacy; the teenage conversational idiom is contemporary and well written.

***Perks of Being A Wallflower*+* Stephen Chlosky**

An epistolary narrative cleverly places readers in the role of recipients of Charlie's unfolding story of his freshman year in high school. From the beginning, Charlie's identity as an outsider is credibly established. It was in the spring of the previous school year that his best friend committed suicide and now that his class has gone through a summer of change, the boy finds that he has drifted away from old friends. He finds a new and satisfying social set, however, made up of several high school seniors, bright bohemians with ego-bruising insights and, really, hearts of gold.

Misery Steven King

After an automobile accident, novelist Paul Sheldon meets his biggest fan. Annie Wilkes is his nurse-and captor. Now, she wants Paul to write his greatest work-just for her. She has a lot of ways to spur him on. One is a needle. Another is an ax. And if they don't work, she can get really nasty...

Secret Life of Bees* Sue Monk Kidd

Lily Owens, 14, is an emotionally abused white girl living with her cold, uncaring father on a peach farm in rural South Carolina. The memory of her mother, who was accidentally killed in Lily's presence when she was four, haunts her constantly. Lily's companion during her sad childhood has been Rosaleen, the black woman hired to care for her. Rosaleen, in a euphoric mood after the passing of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, goes to town to register to vote and insults one of the town's most racist residents. After she is beaten up and hospitalized, Lily decides to rescue her and they go to Tiburon to search for memories of her mother. There they are taken in by three black sisters who are beekeepers producing a line of honey with the Black Madonna label. While racial tensions simmer around them, the women help Lily accept her loss and learn the power of forgiveness.

The Mermaid Chair Sue Monk Kidd

Forty-three-year old Jessie Sullivan is pulled out of her staid life in Atlanta with her husband and daughter, back to her childhood home on Egret Island after her mother, Nelle, cuts off one of her own fingers. Jessie has been uneasy with the island since her beloved father died when she was nine in a boating accident, a tragedy Jessie has always felt partially responsible for. At the behest of her mother's best friend, Jessie journeys back to the island to try to reconnect with the mother she's never been close to. Jessie wants to know what drove her obviously disturbed mother to sever her finger, and she thinks Father Dominic, one of the Benedictine monks who reside in a nearby monastery, might know more about her mother's state of mind. But it is another monk who claims Jessie's attention--handsome Brother Thomas, who ignites in Jessie a passion so intense it overwhelms her, leading her to question her marriage and rediscover her artistic drive.

A Wizard's First Rule Terry Goodkind

The protective barrier that separates Westland from its neighbors to the east is about to fall, letting loose a monstrous evil upon the world. Only the combined efforts of a young man dedicated to finding the truth, an enigmatic woman intent on concealing her past, and a crusty old hermit resigned to his inevitable destiny can prevent the opening of the three boxes of Order--an event with the potential to destroy existence itself.

I Know This Much Is True Wally Lamb

40-year-old housepainter Dominick is facing many obstacles to happiness. He doesn't know who his real father is, his own marriage is defunct, and his current relationship with the woman in his life is tricky. However, these problems pale in comparison to the much bigger situation he has to deal with: his schizophrenic twin brother, Thomas. Having already presented Dominick with a lifetime of problems, Thomas has now mutilated himself; he severed his own hand out of some misplaced notion of religious sacrifice and political protest.

All synopsis taken from reviews on amazon.com

Name: _____

English III, Advanced English III and Honors English III Summer Reading ASSIGNMENT
Graphic Organizer for Notes
(Quiz grade for first marking period: due Monday, September 13, 2010)

Directions: Consider each set of questions. In the space provided beside each question, write down comments, notes, observations, and quotations to help you answer these questions. You may not be able to address every question in the box, but you should be able to address a least one question from each category. We will use this chart in September to start our class lessons.

Questions to consider	Notes to answer questions (comments, observation, quotations, etc)
How important are the female characters in your book? In the relationships, are the men and women treated fairly? Are the women ignored, patronized, or demeaned, or elevated? What is the role of the men in the piece?	
How does the author's life influence his writing? What connections can I make between the author's life and the character's life?	
What does the character's childhood or repressed childhood reveal about the character? What are the obvious or hidden motives that cause a character's behavior and speech? What psychological disorders/conditions may this character be exhibiting?	

<p>When was the work written? What were the cultural and/or historical circumstances that produced it? What are you able to learn about the time period after reading this book?</p>	
<p>Is there tension between the characters in the book because of social class? How important is money to the characters in your book? How are the different social classes presented in this book?</p>	
<p>What symbols are developed throughout the book? What is the tone of the piece? How is the book organized and how does this organization relate to the author's purpose?</p>	
<p>What connections can I make between my life and the lives of the characters? What does this work mean to me? What particular aspects of my life can help me understand and appreciate the work?</p>	

