

To: AP English Lit &Comp Students
From: Mrs. Smith-Raska
Re: Summer Reading Assignment
Date: June 2016



Those students who are accepting the challenge of Advanced Placement English Literature & Composition are **required to read *Of Beetles and Angels*** by Mawi Asgedom, ***Sons and Lovers*** by D.H. Lawrence, and one novel of your choosing from the list below. In addition, you must **read two** plays (see below).

CHOOSE ONE novel from the list below:

- *The Prince of Tides* (Conroy)
Tom Wingo is a high school football coach whose marriage and career are crumbling. He flies to New York after learning of his twin sister's suicide attempt. He realizes that while trying to save her, this may be his last chance to save himself as well.
- *Madame Bovary* (Flaubert)
Gustave Flaubert's 1857 novel about a young woman of the bourgeois class whose unhappiness in her marriage leads her to several affairs and a tragic fate.
- *Giants in the Earth* (Rolvaaq)
A Norwegian pioneer family struggles with the land and the elements of the Dakota Territory in their efforts to make a new life in America.
- *Sister Carrie* (Dreiser)
The story of a young woman from Wisconsin who goes to Chicago, becomes an actress, marries and goes to New York, and when her husband loses his job, goes onstage again.
- *As I Lay Dying* (Faulkner)
Describes a family's struggle to get their mother properly buried, while they encounter catastrophes of flood and fire, as well as the chaos of their own feelings.
- *The French Lieutenant's Woman* (Fowles)
A love story set at Lyme Regis, England in the 19th century. Charles Smithson, a young gentleman of traditional values, is engaged to a wealthy girl. His destiny is haunted by the independent and poor Sarah Woodruff.
- *Their Eyes Were Watching God* (Hurston)
An African-American woman searches for a fulfilling relationship through two loveless marriages and finally finds it in the person of Tea Cake, an itinerant laborer and gambler.
- *The Age of Innocence* (Wharton)
A portrayal of New York society in the 1870s where money counted for less than manners and morals.

READ BOTH:

- *A Doll's House* (Ibsen)
Presents a stage adaptation of the late nineteenth-century drama about Nora, a woman whose husband expects her to be his petted little songbird, but who is in truth hiding a deceptive secret.

- *No Exit* (Sartre)
A play written by the French existentialist philosopher and writer addressing such topics as hell and the human condition.

You are required to have completed all books by the first day of class in September. During the first week of class, you will be given a test to check that the material has been read. Additional assignments related to the texts will also be given.

Since this reading is challenging, it is recommended that you give yourselves enough time to read carefully. **You are being given the Lawrence novel, so annotate in it while you read.** While the other texts are available at the public library, it is also suggested that you purchase your own copies so that you may make notes in them and highlight key passages for future use on assignments. Use post-its to record your thoughts/questions/observations. For your convenience, the list has been forwarded to the Park Ridge Public Library.

Have a great summer and happy reading!