

Summer Reading 2018

English 11 ~ Miss Eddy & Mrs Hutton

Welcome to English 11! We look forward to seeing you in September. Your summer reading will be a continuation of your journey in high school, and we truly hope that it continues to be an enjoyable and invigorating one. Below are the titles of your summer reading selections. Both are required readings. These works explore the many dimensions of human nature, the power of choice and chance, family and friendship, the human experience, social justice and injustice, as well as the belief in one's self and the good in others.

Both of the titles are available online for purchase. (*A Raisin in the Sun* is available as a text from Nardin.) If you wish to purchase the titles at Barnes and Noble or Talking Leaves, it would be a good idea to call ahead to be sure that they are in-stock at the time you wish to purchase them. Both of the selections are also available through the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library. (If you borrow a book from the library, please be sure that it will be available to you when the work is needed in class.)

Selections			
Title	Author	Publisher	ISBN
<i>A Raisin in the Sun</i>	Lorraine Hansberry		copy available through Nardin
<i>Lilac Girls</i>	Martha Hall Kelly	Ballantine Books	978-1-101-88308-2

***A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry**

“Lorraine Hansberry’s award-winning drama about the hopes and aspirations of a struggling, working-class family living on the South Side of Chicago connected profoundly with the psyche of black America—and changed American theater forever. The play’s title comes from a line in Langston Hughes’s poem “Harlem” which warns that a dream deferred might “dry up/like a raisin in the sun.” (From back cover of *A Raisin in the Sun*.) Copies of this play are available for you to borrow in Room 207. Please feel free to come sign out a copy for yourself.

The play is a reflection of its social, cultural, and historical context, and a way for readers to explore their own social, cultural, and historical context. The play raises a number of essential questions for readers, including some of the following:

1. How do one’s race, class, and/or gender influence an individual’s goals or aspirations?
2. How do individuals determine or understand their place in society?
3. What is the role of money in attaining the American Dream?
4. When does pragmatism outweigh pride?

Students will have the opportunity to explore these questions in relationship to the play and to themselves.

Assignment: Please complete the attached “3-2-1” during/after your reading. Please list three emotions felt while or evoked by the play, two “wonder” questions, and one question you would like to pose to the class for discussion. Please bring this with you on the first day of class and for ensuing discussion.

***Lilac Girls* by Martha Hall Kelly**

“Based on a real-life story of a New York socialite who championed a group of concentration camp survivors known as the Rabbits, this acclaimed debut novel reveals a story of love, redemption, and terrible secrets that were hidden for decades.

Caroline Ferriday is a former Broadway actress and liaison to the French consulate whose life is forever changed when Hitler’s army invades Poland in September 1939-- and then sets its sights on France. An ocean away from Caroline, Kasia Kuzmerick, a Polish teenager, sinks deeper into her role as courier for the underground resistance movement. In Germany, Herta Oberheuser, a young doctor, answers an ad for a government medical position-- only to find herself trapped in a male-dominated realm of Nazi secrets and power.

The lives of these three women are set on a collision course when the unthinkable happens, and Kasia is sent to Ravensbrück, the notorious Nazi concentration camp for women. Their stories cross continents, as Caroline and Kasia strive to bring justice to those whom history has forgotten.” (From back cover of *Lilac Girls*)

****Please note that this is a very mature and challenging read due to mature content as well as unspeakable acts and crimes committed by people against people. All of these events and issues in the novel will be addressed in class, but should you have any questions or concerns while reading, please do not hesitate to contact either of us. We are here for support and questions. We also encourage you to talk about this novel with your family. Also, if you have read The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society, Ravensbrück is the camp to which Elizabeth McKenna and Remy Giraud were sent.*

As you read, please consider the following questions.

1. Which characters grow in the novel? Which do not? If so, how does each grow through her/his interactions and relationships with others?
2. Please consider any symbols you notice in the novel. What is significant and special about each? Do any develop into a motif?
3. What roles do Love, Anger, Forgiveness, and Hope play in the novel?
4. What are three lessons that one can learn from this novel?

Assignment: Please complete the attached “3-2-1” during/after your reading. Please list three emotions felt while or evoked by the novel, two “wonder” questions, and one question you would like to pose to the class for discussion. Please bring this with you on the first day of class and for ensuing discussion.

In general, as you are reading, please take notes/make annotations on the things you notice and which make you think and wonder. These could be questions you have or discussion topics you would wish to pose to the class, and they need not be in complete sentences. This can be done either in your book or on post-its, or in your notebook. Please save all of your notes, as they will be the first notes for class. For all of the works, please circle any words with which you are unfamiliar. Then, please look up these words in a dictionary and be prepared to share this in class. Please keep a running list of vocabulary words and record these, with their definitions, in your vocabulary notebook. (Please use a composition notebook.)

Read at your own pace (we suggest about twenty pages a day) and read thoughtfully as we shall use these works in our studies in September as well as throughout the year as we explore other texts. Please feel free to e-mail us with any questions or concerns at eddy@nardin.org and mhutton@nardin.org.

Enjoy a wonderful summer! Please be a careful and thoughtful reader.

Please note: Any material or content within any of the above selections, which may be considered objectionable will be appropriately addressed in class.

Name: _____

Text title: _____

3 EMOTIONS

2 WONDERS

1 QUESTION FOR DISCUSSION

Name: _____

Text title: _____

3 EMOTIONS

2 WONDERS

1 QUESTION FOR DISCUSSION