

FRESHMAN SUMMER READING LETTER 2020

Dear Freshmen:

Below are your summer reading lists and assignments. Please purchase the books. You will be asked to bring them to class. There are assignments, due on the first full day of class, to be HAND-WRITTEN for each book. Please be sure to proofread your work. Please put your work into a 2-pocket folder and with a label bearing your name. A test will be given during the first week of class. Please note that the Honors students have an additional book to read.

Freshman and Honors Classes:

Gorilla, My Love Toni Cade Bambara [fiction]

Animal, Vegetable, Miracle Barbara Kingsolver
[non-fiction]

Honors Only: *The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail* Robert Lee and Jerome
Lawrence [drama]

(Honors) for *The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail*: Write a 5 paragraph essay defining civil disobedience and discussing whether civil disobedience is ever an acceptable response to a social problem? In your essay, refer to the play and to two historical examples of civil disobedience (the civil rights movement; Salt March in India; Aung San Suu Kyi in Myanmar, for example).

For the two books required for all freshman students, keep a brief journal in which you record the following:

For *Gorilla, My Love*: record the main **characters** - their traits, significant conflicts or obstacles they face; **the plot** - with a sense of beginning, middle, end; significant aspects of setting; and **themes** for each story.

Choose two quotations **per story**. Record and comment on the significance of each.

For *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle*, record the central argument Barbara Kingsolver makes in this non-fiction work. What specific evidence – examples, anecdotes, expert testimony – does she offer in support of her argument?

Assess the value/success of her argument? Did she persuade you? Why or why not? What, in your opinion, was Kingsolver's most compelling point? Why?

If you have any questions you may contact Ms. Caughey @
caughey.j@stsaviour.org Happy reading!