

FRESHMAN SUMMER READING LETTER 2019

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, for each of the books. 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 weeks of class on the books. Please note that the Honors students have an additional book to read.

Freshman and Honors Classes:

Gorilla, My Love

Animal, Vegetable, Miracle

Toni Cade Bambara [fiction]

Barbara Kingsolver [non-fiction]

Honors Only:

The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail
[drama]

Robert Lee and Jerome Lawrence

(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 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!