

May 1, 2009

Dear future ENG IV Honors students:

Congratulations on your decision to take this challenging course! I look forward to meeting and working with you. The purpose of this letter is twofold. First, I give you the starting information on summer reading options; second, I list the books you need to obtain for next year.

#### SUMMER READING

This summer you are required to read ONE of the following books and do an attendant assignment, which you will find on my class website by **June 1<sup>st</sup>**. Please follow this path to our website: County website → Students → High school → Other Links → Blackboard. Username britlithonorsfwb, password sutton. When entering the site, select Brit Lit Honors under My Classes. You will find the summer reading handout in the Class Documents section (left menu). The assignment is due **Friday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009**, at the beginning of class.

*The Book Thief*, by Marcus Zusak  
*Tamar*, by Mal Peet

#### CLASS READINGS

We will read the following texts throughout the year. **Please have copies of the starred items on the first day of school.** (I strongly recommend that you purchase these well before the start of school or online as local booksellers are notoriously slow.) Please order by the given ISBNs so everyone will have the same versions. Approximate ordering times are given for the remaining titles to help you plan. You may purchase them yourself or order through me during the school year for a 20% discount.

#### FOR THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL:

- \**Word Power*, by Kaplan Publishing, ISBN 0-7432-4115-0 (Kaplan)
- \**Beowulf*, by Seamus Heaney, ISBN 0393320979 (W.W. Norton)
- \**The Pillars of the Earth*, by Ken Follett, ISBN 0451225244 (NAL)
- \*English Grammar SparkChart, ISBN 9781586636456. Available at [www.bn.com](http://www.bn.com).
- \*Literary Terms SparkChart, ISBN 9781411400634. Available at [www.bn.com](http://www.bn.com).

#### 2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER

*King Lear*, ISBN 074348276X (New Folger)  
*Much Ado about Nothing*, ISBN 0743482751 (Folger)

#### 3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER

*Frankenstein*, Mary Shelley, ISBN 158049594X (Prestwick)  
*The Importance of Being Earnest*, by Oscar Wilde, ISBN 158049580X (Prestwick)

#### 4<sup>TH</sup> QUARTER

*1984*, by George Orwell, ISBN 0452284236 (Plume)

In anticipation,

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