

Summer Reading Assignment  
American Studies  
Mr. Tim Babb  
Ms. Cathy Parsons

All students should read the following work:

*The Killer Angels* by Michael Shaara

In addition, all students should choose ONE of the following:

*March* by Geraldine Brooks

*The Known World* by Edward P. Jones

**On the second day of school, a test will be given on the required novel, *The Killer Angels*, and the choice novel (either *March* or *The Known World*). On this same date, the written responses to these works will also be collected.**

AT NO POINT DURING THESE ASSIGNMENTS SHOULD YOU CONSULT ANY OUTSIDE SOURCES—NO ARTICLES, NO SPARKNOTES, NOTHING BUT THE WORK ASSIGNED.

- A. Keep a response journal as you are reading the two novels. That means that as you are reading, you are having a conversation/dialogue with the literature. Choose ten significant moments in **each** novel. Your moments must come from the entire novel, not just from one half or section of the novel. Your final journal should be typed. For each selected moment:
1. Quote the passage accurately documenting the page number.
    - a. Please submit moments in the order in which they occur in the novel
    - b. Please number each entry
  2. Address the significance of the moment.

Consider the following when selecting your moments and passages:

- Moments which reveal a character's development, motivation, or epiphany
- Moments which reveal the importance of setting
- Moments which connect to literary devices such as allusion, irony, motif, foreshadowing, figurative language, symbol, or tone
- Moments which build on or reveal theme
- Moments which are good examples of the author's style

### Assessment

Your work will be assessed based on the following criteria:

- Quotations/Moments are taken from throughout the works, not just one section.
- Quality of quotation selection as measured by how well your selections communicate your understanding of a variety of key ideas and concepts present in the work
- Thoughtfulness and insightfulness of the
- response to the selected quotation
- Connections of the ideas and concepts to your life or understandings about humanity

In addition to the journals and the tests, upon your return to school we will be writing a paper based on the information you have gathered in your journals. Take some time to enjoy these works. A hurried approach at the end of the summer will lead to frustration. Explore the ideas of these authors as well as your own ideas. Enjoy your summer and your reading!