To: Incoming English 10 Honors Students  
From: The English Department  
Re: Summer Reading Assignment  
Date: June 2020

Those students who are accepting the challenge of American Lit Honors must READ TWO TEXTS by the first week of school in September. You will be assessed on your reading, and the grades will count towards the first marking period. In addition, you are expected to participate in GoogleDoc Discussions (see below for directions).

EVERYONE MUST READ:

1) **Bean Trees** by Barbara Kingsolver (American realistic fiction)  
Taylor Greer hits the road wanting only to get as far away from Kentucky as possible, ending up in Arizona with a 3-year-old Cherokee girl she has inherited from a woman in a bar.

2) **The Catcher in the Rye** (American realistic fiction)  
After leaving prep school Holden Caulfield spends three days on his own in New York City on a journey of self-discovery.

It is recommended that you give yourselves enough time to read carefully and thoughtfully. You MUST USE POST-ITS TO ANNOTATE. USE YOUR SIGN-POSTS.

Both texts are being distributed to you. To help you pace your reading/manage your time and engage in good discussion, here is the reading schedule that should be followed:

**Bean Trees** (finish reading and participate in GoogleDoc discussion by Friday, July 31st)

**The Catcher in the Rye** (finish reading and participate in GoogleDoc discussion by Thursday, Sept 3rd)

OPTIONAL: If you are looking for additional recommendations for personal reading, consider the titles below. They are all wonderful reads!

- **Dear Martin** by Nic Stone  
Writing letters to the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., seventeen-year-old college-bound Justyce McAllister struggles to face the reality of race relations today and how they are shaping him.

- **The Hate U Give** by Angie Thomas  
After witnessing her friend's death at the hands of a police officer, Starr Carter's life is complicated when the police and a local drug lord try to intimidate her in an effort to learn what happened the night Kahlil died.

- **Long Way Down** by Jason Reynolds  
Driven by the secrets and vengeance that mark his street culture, 15-year-old Will contemplates over the course of 60 psychologically suspenseful seconds whether or not he is going to murder the person who killed his brother.

- **This Savage Song** by Victoria Schwab  
"As the heirs to opposing sides in a warring city, Kate Harker and Augustus Flynn should never have met. A Romeo and Juliet-esque fantasy about the difference between good and evil and the blurry gray area in between".
DIRECTIONS FOR GOOGLEDOC DISCUSSION ENTRIES
AMERICAN LIT HONORS

While you are reading this summer, you will have an opportunity to reflect on the readings, post questions and share your insights with your classmates and your teacher. This will happen using a GoogleDoc.

What is a GoogleDoc?
It is an online document to which people are invited so that they can collaborate and share ideas.

Getting Started:
Step 1—Using your school account, email Mrs. Papadopoulos at academicsforlife@gmail.com
Include the following message:

Hi Mrs. Paps,
This is your name. Here is my email address. I am taking the honors course.

Step 2—you will receive an “invitation” from Mrs. Papadopoulos to join a GoogleDoc. Click the link in the invitation, so that you can access the GoogleDoc.
(NOTE: If these directions are confusing, please stop by room 101 after school, and Mrs. Papadopoulos will assist you.)

Step 3—as you read your texts, you must access the GoogleDoc and post your contributions (follow the directions included in the GoogleDoc). You will be invited to a separate GoogleDoc for each novel which you are reading.
(NOTE: Each time you complete a post, make sure to identify yourself—name and date.
Log on early and follow the reading schedule so that you can benefit from the on-line discussions.)

Frequently Asked Questions:
When are these reading logs due? As you read, take the time to complete your posts. Make sure that you complete your responses by the first full week of school.

How do I access the GoogleDoc? Besides access from the emailed invitation, you can also go to google.com and sign-in to your account.

Who do I contact over the summer if I have questions? You can email Mrs. Papadopoulos at academicsforlife@gmail.com