

## AMERICAN LITERATURE INDEPENDENT READING LIST

*The Adventures of Augie March*, Saul Bellow  
*America Is In The Heart*, Carlos Bulsan  
*Animal Dreams*, Barbara Kingsolver  
*Annabel Lee*, Edgar Allan Poe  
*As I Lay Dying*, William Faulkner  
*Bastard Out of Carolina*, Dorothy Allison  
*Beloved*, Toni Morrison  
*Black Elk Speaks*, Black Elk and John Niehardt  
*The Bone People*, Keri Hulme  
*The Plum Pickers*, Raymond Barrio  
*The Cask of Amontillado*, Edgar Allan Poe  
*Cebu*, Peter Bacho  
*China Men*, M.H. Kingston  
*A Choice of Weapons*, Gordon Parks  
*The Color of Water*, James McBride  
*The Collected Poems of Langston Hughes*, Langston Hughes  
*A Confederacy of Dunces*, John Kennedy Toole  
*Crossing the Mangrove*, Maryse Conde  
*The Crying of Lot 49*, Thomas Pynchon  
*The Crucible*, Arthur Miller  
*The Death of a Salesman*, Arthur Miller  
*Dusk*, F. Sionil Jose  
*Enormous Changes at the Last Minute*, Grace Payley  
*Ethan Fromme*, Edith Wharton  
*Fences*, August Wilson  
*The Fire Next Time*, James Baldwin  
*For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide  
When the Rainbow is Enuf*, Ntozake Shange  
*Franny and Zooey*, J. D. Salinger  
*Go Tell It on the Mountain*, James Baldwin  
*The Great Gatsby*, F. Scott Fitzgerald  
*Here on Earth*, Alice Hoffman  
*The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, Douglas Adams  
*House of the Spirits*, Isabel Allende  
*The Infinite Plan*, Isabel Allende  
*In My Father's Court*, Isaac Bashevis Singer  
*Invisible Man*, Ralph Ellison  
*The Joy Luck Club*, Amy Tan  
*Life on the Mississippi*, Mark Twain  
*Liliane*, Ntozake Shange  
*Love Medicine*, Louise Erdrich  
*Maggie's American Dream*, James P. Comer  
*My Antonia*, Willa Cather  
*Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*, Frederick Douglass  
*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, Ken Kesey  
*Paula*, Isabel Allende  
*Picture Bride*, Yoshiko Uchida  
*Pocho*, Jose Villarreal  
*Possessing the Secret of Joy*, Alice Walker  
*Pudd'n'head Wilson*, Mark Twain  
*Rain of Gold*, Victor Villasenor  
*Scarlet Letter*, Nathaniel Hawthorn  
*Scent of Apples*, Bienvenido Santos  
*Seven Guitars*, August Wilson  
*Sometimes a Great Notion*, Ken Kesey  
*Song of Solomon*, Toni Morrison  
*The Sound and the Fury*, William Faulkner



*Stones for Ibarra*, Harriet Doerr  
*The Storyteller*, Mario Vargas Llosa  
*Their Eyes Were Watching God*, Zora Neale Hurston  
*The Tortilla Curtain*, T. Coraghessan Boyle  
*Transformations*, Anne Sexton  
*Typical American*, Gish Jen  
*Ugly Ways*, Tina McElroy Ansa  
*When I Was Puerto Rican*, Esmeralda Santiago  
*The Women of Brewster Place*, Gloria Naylor  
*The World According to Garp*, John Irving  
*Winesburg, Ohio*, Sherwood Anderson  
*Gravity's Rainbow*, Thomas Pynchon  
*On the Road*, Jack Kerouac  
*White Noise*, Don DeLillo  
*Fluke: Or, I Know Why the Winged Whale Sings*, Christopher Moore  
*Lamb, the Gospel According to Biff, Christ's Childhood Pal*, Christopher Moore  
*By the Light of My Father's Smile*, Alice Walker  
*Billy Budd*, Herman Melville  
*As I Lay Dying*, William Faulkner  
*The Unvanquished*, Faulkner  
*A Civil Action*, Jonathan Harr  
*Dreaming in Cuban*, Cristina Garcia  
*Atlas Shrugged*, Ayn Rand  
*The Fountainhead*, Ayn Rand  
*"Surely You're Joking, Mr. Feynman!": Adventures  
of a Curious Character*, Richard Feynman (nonfiction)  
*The Bell Jar*, Sylvia Plath  
*The Awakening*, Kate Chopin  
*Jitterbug Perfume*, Tom Robbins  
*Still Life With Woodpecker*, Tom Robbins

## INDEPENDENT READING CRITERIA AND DUE DATES

Over the course of the school year, you will be required to read SIX novels of your choice from the American Literature Independent Reading List. It is your responsibility to obtain the books you elect to read, whether by checking them out at the school and/or local library (Yes, this means you must get a library card!) or by purchasing them. You choose.

For each novel you read, you will be required to write an evaluation essay and give a one minute book talk to the class as part of your grade. You will be given the instructions for each as the due date draws nearer. You will read three novels the fall semester and three novels the spring semester. Below you will fill in the due dates for the book talks and the essays, both of which are due on the same day. **No late essays or book talks! No exceptions!**

Due Date \_\_\_\_\_ Unit 1, Lesson 23: First Book Talk/Evaluation Essay Due

Due Date \_\_\_\_\_ Unit 2, Lesson 10: Second Book Talk/Evaluation Essay Due

Due Date \_\_\_\_\_ Unit 2, Lesson 35: Third Book Talk/Evaluation Essay Due

Due Date \_\_\_\_\_ Unit 3, Lesson 18: Fourth Book Talk/Evaluation Essay Due

Due Date \_\_\_\_\_ Unit 3, Lesson 40: Fifth Book Talk and Evaluation Essay Due

Due Date \_\_\_\_\_ Unit 4, Lesson 25: Sixth Book Talk and Evaluation Essay Due

