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Welcome to AP Literature and Composition for 2020-21! I am looking forward to our year together. None of us are certain how the school year will look, but I am confident that we will make the best of our "new normal" and discover new ways to learn together and appreciate great literature.

Due to the Shelter in Place restrictions, there is **no required** summer reading for AP Literature. But I am making some **recommendations** for those of you who would like some ideas about which books would best prepare you for AP Lit. and the AP test in the spring.

- 1. How to Read Literature Like a Professor by Thomas Foster. Make sure you do not select How to Read Novels Like a Professor. You can either buy the book online or find the link to the free PDF if you select "Summer Homework" on the home page for my AP Lit. Weebly. It is also available at the Santa Cruz Public Library.
- 2. *The Great Gatsby* by F.Scott Fitzgerald (if you did not read it this year)
- 3. Sing, Unburied, Sing by Jesmyn Ward
- 4. Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neal Hurston
- 5. There, There by Tommy Orange
- 6. Americanah by Chimamanda Adiche
- 7. On Beauty by Zadie Smith
- 8. A Gesture Life by Chang-Rae Lee
- 9. Homegoing by Yaa Gyasi
- 10. A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini
- 11. Djinn Patrol on the Purple Line by Deepa Anappara
- 12. The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy

We will be reading *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood when we start school in August, so you may want to take a look at the Hulu series as a preview, or even better, read the book in advance. Reading a great book more than once paves the way to deeper understanding the second time through.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer and that you find time to explore two or three of these titles. Most are available through the Santa Cruz Public Library which is starting curbside service now. The sooner you request the title you want, the sooner you will be called to pick up your requests.

Email me if you have questions or concerns.