English Language and Composition
Summer 2020-2021 Reading List
Mr. Marsh

AP Students and Parents:

The following is a list of literary works each student must read before the start of the 2020-2021 school year. Please purchase physical copies of the books and highlight important information as you read (important passages that illustrate the author's style, that support one or more of the motifs or themes of the work, that contribute to a character's development, that cause difficulty in understanding, etc.). Also, make marginal notes which will allow you to remember what you have highlighted. Often, you are able to use the text when you write essays in which you are required to include textual references (quotations). In addition, please make a study sheet for each of the works. Make a list of characters, descriptions, etc., of major motifs and themes, of the major plot points, of any research findings you have accumulated, etc. Having the works read and highlighted prior to testing/discussion is of utmost importance; therefore, the summer reading is not optional. We will discuss the works in the order they are listed. During the first days of class, there will be a major exam on all of the works.

1. *The Natural* by Bernard Malamud
2. *The Glass Menagerie* by Tennessee Williams (you might try to find the video of the Katherine Hepburn version of the play to watch).

In addition to reading, research the following topics, print out the information, and highlight the most important parts:
1. The Waste Land motif in literature
2. The Legend of the Fisher King

Also, during the year, you will read several other major works and many non-fiction selections. *Each month you will be required to read a novel or play that might appear on the AP Exam and write and present to the class an essay based on an AP prompt.*

If you need to contact me during the summer, my email addresses are eearlmarsh@gmail.com or earlmarsh@lagrangeacademy.org.