

José Martí MAST 6-12 Academy

12th Grade Summer Assignment 2019

Novel Selection

Till We Have Faces: A Myth Retold by C.S. Lewis



Synopsis

Told from the viewpoint of Psyche's sister, Orual, *Till We Have Faces* is a brilliant examination of envy, betrayal, loss, blame, grief, guilt, and conversion. In this, his final—and most mature and masterful—novel, Lewis reminds us of our own fallibility and the role of a higher power in our lives.

Grading Criterion

- The assignment is due by August 26-27, 2019 to your Language Arts Teacher. **Students should be prepared for a novel test the same week that the assignment is due.**
- Late submissions and email copies will NOT be accepted.
- Grades will be based on creativity, neatness, the accuracy of the information, and how well directions were followed.

Resources

Below are some ways to acquire free or inexpensive copies of the required summer reading:

1. The local libraries or bookstores have copies of most of the books.
Note: **If you wait until the last minute, your selection will likely be limited.**
2. A list of websites (new or used copies) can be purchased at up to a 50% discount.
 - EBay (www.ebay.com)
 - Half.com (www.half.ebay.com)
 - Amazon.com (www.amazon.com)
 - Book Closets.com (www.bookclosets.com).

Summer Reading Assignment

Choose **one** of the following topics and write a five-paragraph essay using at least six examples from the novel (at least four of which need to be direct quotations) to prove your thesis. There should be a clear thesis and topic with specific examples from the book. You also need to explain your examples. It should be evident from your essay that you have read and understood the novel. Any evidence of plagiarism will result in an automatic zero.

Essay Prompt #1 Till We Have Faces is the retelling of the Greek myth of Cupid and Psyche. How does the novel differ from the original story? Does the original myth figure in the novel, and what is its significance? Support your answer with analysis with quotes and events from the work.

Essay Prompt #2 One of the novel's major themes is that of obsessive or jealous love. Does it portray other kinds of love? Discuss and provide examples from the work.

Essay Prompt #3 Choose one major character and explain the ways Lewis chooses to develop him or her as symbolic. What methods of characterization does the author use? Support your answer with analysis with quotes and events from the work. Choose from the following or identify your own: Characters: Orual, the Fox, Psyche, Redival, Bardia, the Priest, or Arnom. Methods of Characterization: Actions, Dialogue, Description, Other's Reactions, for example.