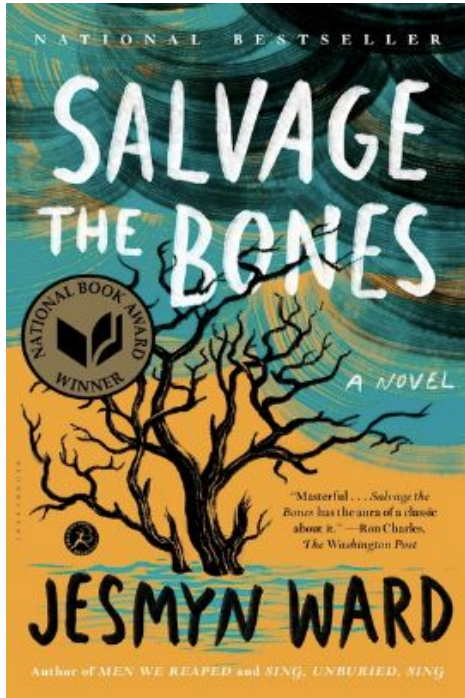


Welcome to Mind Matters where we will explore the many aspects of the psychology of creativity, specifically creativity expressed in writing and by writers. What is creativity, and how does one tap into it? We will examine the work of the psychologist Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi (pronounced Mee-high Cheek-sent-me-high), excerpts from Rebecca Solnit's nonfiction works, poetry by Mark Strand, *Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson, and *Demian* by Hermann Hesse.



Over the summer you will read *Salvage the Bones* by Jesmyn Ward. It is the story of a black family in Bois Sauvage, Mississippi, that spans twelve days before and after Hurricane Katrina. As you read, I want you to mark the places in the novel that surprise you. It could be an interesting simile you've never heard before, a situation, a character, or anything else. Be ready to share your surprises and why in the first few days of class.

We will spend the first weeks of school discussing this novel, and you will write about it in class. You do not need to do any writing over the summer.