

BRADENTON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

2023

SUMMER READING PROGRAM



TWELFTH GRADE WORLD LITERATURE

All World Literature students must complete the following assignment – Honors see additional assignment.

* The required summer reading book is *The Iguana Tree* by Michel Stone

Set amid the perils of illegal border crossings, *The Iguana Tree* is the suspenseful saga of Lilia and Hector, who separately make their way from Mexico into the United States, seeking work in the Carolinas and a home for their infant daughter.

Michel Stone's harrowing novel meticulously examines the obstacles each faces in pursuing a new life: manipulation, rape, and murder in the perilous commerce of border crossings; betrayal by family and friends; exploitation by corrupt officials and rapacious landowners on the U.S. side; and, finally, the inexorable workings of the U.S. justice system.

Your assignment is due the first day of school, **August 9, 2023**.

Writing Prompts for Literary Analysis

The Iguana Tree

Choose one of the following prompts and compose a 500 – 750 word essay based on the novel.

1. One of the most revealing types of conflict occurs when a character's inner struggles are resolved at great personal price. Often, the character learns a lesson, but too late to help himself or another character. Explain how, in the book, a character struggles but fails to learn a lesson in time, and thus, serves as an example for the reader. In your essay, focus

on the conflict within the character. Be sure to include the price paid as part of the resolution and the lesson to be learned. Use at least 3 quotes from the book in your essay.

2. Often in literary works, authors choose a physical object which takes on a special significance in the work and becomes a symbol of something beyond itself. Show how, in the book, the author uses a symbol to convey an important meaning. In your essay, focus on the symbol and what it symbolizes. Be sure to discuss how the author uses it to convey a message to readers. You may choose three important symbols from the novel, or you may choose to elaborate on one symbol that is used throughout the novel.

Additional Honors Assignment:

Summer Reading Assignment #2 Due August 9, 2023

Your second assignment is *An Invisible Thread* by Laura Schroff and Alex Tresniowski. As you read this book, take note of the themes of betrayal, rejection, and the dynamics of the family.

It is **essential** that you take notes on the reading. Look for and identify important passages from the novel (with page numbers) that reveal the character and the essential themes that arise in the novel. As you read the novel, concentrate your efforts on looking for references to the following themes and recording them along with your thoughts and reactions.

1. Loss of innocence and coming of age
2. Redemption of the human spirit
3. Social evils and the pain brought on by society
4. People's inner conflicts (good vs. evil)
5. The destructive power of insecurity
6. The lingering impact of guilt

Complete the following as you read the novel:

- You will address all six topic/themes from above
- Gather at least three significant passages for each of the six themes.
- Type the passages that support the themes and provide the page numbers on which they are found. Explain how the passages pertain to the theme.