

*Senior Seminar: English IV and Honors English IV*  
*Summer Reading Assignment: 2026-2027*  
*The Nightingale Seminar Discussion*

**Overview:** For your summer reading assignment for the 2026-2027 school year, you will receive a grade based on your participation in a group seminar discussion on Kristin Hannah's *The Nightingale*.

**Assignment:** Complete *The Nightingale: Seminar Reading Journal* prior to the day of the seminar. It is strongly recommended that you complete this assignment over the summer; do not wait until the start of the school year. Your reading journal must be typed in MLA format (including heading, header, and works cited page). You may use the template on the following page as a guide; however, you are free to organize the required information in a way that best supports your thinking.

The seminar discussion will center on your analysis of *The Nightingale*. Outside sources and the use of AI are not permitted. This is a RED/A assignment.

As you complete your reading journal, consider the following analytical tools:

- Characterization
- Theme
- Symbolism
- Imagery
- Metaphor
- Irony
- Foreshadowing
- Archetype
- Allusions
- Historical significance

**Work Submission:** Your teacher will provide specific submission instructions in class and will check the annotations you make in your copy of the novel.

*The Nightingale*: Seminar Reading Journal

| Quote and Citation | Analytical Tool | Analysis |
|--------------------|-----------------|----------|
| 1.                 |                 |          |
| 2.                 |                 |          |
| 3.                 |                 |          |
| 4.                 |                 |          |
| 5.                 |                 |          |

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**Identify a passage from the novel that you do not fully understand and explain why.**

**QUESTIONS:** Write five ponderable questions to pose to the class about anything in the novel. These should be thought-provoking questions that will further enhance the depth of the discussion.

|    |
|----|
| 1. |
| 2. |
| 3. |
| 4. |
| 5. |

*Honors English IV and English IV*  
*Book Lists 2026-2027*

**SENIOR SUMMER READING**

During the summer months, **all seniors must** read *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah (ISBN-13: 978-1250080400) and complete the summer assignment.

Additionally, **all seniors** must select **two** books to read from the choices below.

**NONFICTION**

| BOOK TITLE and AUTHOR                                                                                                                | ISBN                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>How to Read Literature Like a Professor</i> by Thomas Foster<br>(choice text for all seminars except Short Story, Poetry, & Song) | ISBN-13: 978-0062301673 |
| <i>When Breath Becomes Air</i> by Paul Kalanithi                                                                                     | ISBN-13: 978-1784701994 |
| <i>Braving the Wilderness</i> by Brené Brown                                                                                         | ISBN-13: 978-0812985818 |
| <i>Daring Greatly</i> by Brené Brown                                                                                                 | ISBN-13: 978-1592408412 |
| <i>Grandma Gatewood's Walk</i> by Ben Montgomery                                                                                     | ISBN-13: 978-1613734995 |
| <i>A Place to Stand</i> by Jimmy Santiago Baca                                                                                       | ISBN-13: 978-0802139085 |
| <i>Untamed</i> by Glennon Doyle                                                                                                      | ISBN-13: 978-1984801258 |

**FICTION**

| BOOK TITLE and AUTHOR                               | ISBN                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Girl with a Pearl Earring</i> by Tracy Chevalier | ISBN-13: 978-0452282155 |
| <i>The Red Tent</i> by Anita Diamant                | ISBN-13: 978-0312427290 |
| <i>A Thousand Splendid Suns</i> by Khaled Hosseini  | ISBN-13: 978-0739489505 |
| <i>A Man Called Ove</i> by Fredrik Backman          | ISBN-13: 978-1476738024 |
| <i>Song of Solomon</i> by Toni Morrison             | ISBN-13: 978-1400033423 |

*Honors English IV*  
*Book Lists 2026-2027*

**SENIOR SEMINAR REQUIRED BOOKS**

During your senior seminar courses, discussions and writing assignments will be based on the works listed below. Texts are listed by course. Each student must have her own copy of each required text for annotating. To facilitate class discussions, please buy the editions listed below. All other course texts will be supplied by your teacher.

**HONORS OUTSIDER IN LITERATURE**

| BOOK TITLE and AUTHOR                                            | ISBN                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Things Fall Apart</i> by Chinua Achebe                        | ISBN-13: 978-0385474542 |
| <i>Red Velvet</i> by Lolita Chakrabarti                          | ISBN-13: 978-1472582430 |
| <i>Faces in the Moon</i> by Betty Louise Bell                    | ISBN-13: 978-0806127743 |
| <i>A Pocket Style Manual, 9th edition</i> edited by Diana Hacker | ISBN-13: 978-1319169541 |

**HONORS WOMEN IN LITERATURE**

| BOOK TITLE and AUTHOR                                            | ISBN                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>The Handmaid's Tale</i> by Margaret Atwood                    | ISBN-13: 978-0385490818 |
| <i>Beloved</i> by Toni Morrison                                  | ISBN-13: 978-1400033416 |
| <i>The Awakening</i> by Kate Chopin                              | ISBN-13: 978-0486277868 |
| <i>A Pocket Style Manual, 9th edition</i> edited by Diana Hacker | ISBN-13: 978-1319169541 |

**HONORS DRAMA**

| BOOK TITLE and AUTHOR                                            | ISBN                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>The Children's Hour</i> by Lillian Hellman                    | ISBN-13: 978-0822202059 |
| <i>Twelve Angry Men</i> by Reginald Rose                         | ISBN-13: 978-0143104407 |
| <i>Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992</i> by Anna Deavere Smith         | ISBN-13: 978-0385473767 |
| <i>A Pocket Style Manual, 9th edition</i> edited by Diana Hacker | ISBN-13: 978-1319169541 |

*English IV*  
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**MODERN AMERICAN LITERATURE**

| BOOK TITLE and AUTHOR                                              | ISBN                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>The Things They Carried</i> by Tim O'Brien                      | ISBN-13: 978-0618706419 |
| <i>The Women</i> by Kristin Hannah                                 | ISBN-13: 978-1250178633 |
| <i>A Pocket Style Manual, 9th edition</i> , edited by Diana Hacker | ISBN-13: 978-1319169541 |

**THE LITERATURE OF SOCIAL JUSTICE**

| BOOK TITLE and AUTHOR                                                                                                                                              | ISBN                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Building A Bridge: How the Catholic Church and the LGBT Community Can Enter into a Relationship of Respect, Compassion, and Sensitivity</i> by James Martin, SJ | ISBN-13: 978-0062837530 |
| <i>Maid: Hard Work, Low Pay, and A Mother's Will to Survive</i> by Stephanie Land                                                                                  | ISBN-13: 978-0316505093 |
| <i>Cherished Belonging: The Healing Power of Love in Divided Times</i> Greg Boyle, S.J.                                                                            | ISBN-13: 978-1668061855 |
| <i>Crossing The Line: A Fearless Team of Brothers and the Sport That Changed Their Lives Forever</i> by Kareem Rosser                                              | ISBN-13: 978-1250837165 |
| <i>A Pocket Style Manual, 9th edition</i> , edited by Diana Hacker                                                                                                 | ISBN-13: 978-1319169541 |

**SHORT STORY, POETRY, AND SONG**

| BOOK TITLE and AUTHOR                                            | ISBN                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>A Pocket Style Manual, 9th edition</i> edited by Diana Hacker | ISBN-13: 978-1319169541 |