Welcome to all AP Language and Composition students! The summer reading assignment is intended to supplement your literary background as well as give depth to your exposure to non-fiction writing, for we will devote much of our time this year to analyzing non-fiction language in preparation for the exam.

In addition to the required Community Read, *The Humans* by Matt Haig, you will read two more works (one non-fiction and one fiction) from the list below. For each of your three books, you will keep a dialectical journal according to the following guidelines:

A. These journals will consist of a minimum of 8 quotations to which you respond critically for each work. Select one quotation for every 30-50 pages, depending upon the length of the work. As you respond to the quotations in well-developed paragraphs, focus on the ways in which the author uses language to create an effect. What is it about the language that stands out and makes the passage distinctive? How does the passage reflect the author’s style and purpose and reveal larger themes of the work?

B. The dialectical journals should be constructed in the following manner:

   “Type out or handwrite the passage from the book on the left hand side of the paper with the correct MLA citation for the quotation” (Salinger 126). Your response and analysis of the quotation should be written on the opposite side of the page. Your analysis should include your reasons for selecting the passage, an analysis of specific language and imagery in the passage, and its thematic or symbolic significance to the work as a whole.

Reading Selections

A. Non-fiction (Select any one):
   a. *Into the Wild* by Jon Krakauer
   b. *The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown
   c. *The Devil in the White City* by Erik Larson

C. Fiction (Select any one):
   a. *The Things They Carried* by Tim O’Brien
   b. *Ethan Frome* by Edith Wharton
   c. *The Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger

Finally, in addition to assessing your dialectical journal for three works, your teacher may begin the year with reading check quizzes to verify your comprehension of the works.