# Novel Reading Jr. ( 2012 Summer 2<sup>nd</sup> Session )



## 1. Charlotte Bronte, Jane Eyre

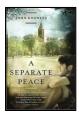
Orphaned at an early age, Jane Eyre leads a lonely life until she finds work as a governess at Thornfield Hall, where she meets the mysterious Mr. Rochester and sees a ghostly woman who roams the halls by night. This is a story of passionate love, travail and final triumph. The relationship between the heroine and Mr. Rochester is only one episode, albeit the most important, in a detailed fictional autobiography in which the author transmuted her own experience into high art. In this work the plucky heroine is outwardly of plain appearance, but possesses an indomitable spirit, a sharp wit and great courage. She is forced to battle against the exigencies of a cruel guardian, a harsh employer and a rigid social order which circumscribes her life and position.



## 2. Jane Austen, Pride and Prejudice

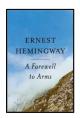
#### English literature's most beloved comedy of manners

Few have failed to be charmed by the witty and independent spirit of Elizabeth Bennet. Her early determination to dislike Mr. Darcy is a prejudice only matched by the folly of his arrogant pride. Their first impressions give way to true feelings in a comedy profoundly concerned with happiness and how it might be achieved.



### 3. John Knowles, A Separate Peace

Set at a boys' boarding school in New England during the early years of World War II, A Separate Peace is a harrowing and luminous parable of the dark side of adolescence. Gene is a lonely, introverted intellectual. Phineas is a handsome, taunting, daredevil athlete. What happens between the two friends one summer, like the war itself, banishes the innocence of these boys and their world.



### 4. Ernest Hemingway, A Farewell to Arms

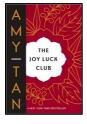
By turns romantic and harshly realistic, Hemingway's story of a tragic romance set against the brutality and confusion of World War I cemented his fame as a stylist and as a writer of extraordinary literary power. A volunteer ambulance driver and a beautiful English nurse fall in love when he is wounded on the Italian front.



## 5. Ayn Rand, Anthem : 50th Anniversary Edition

In a future where there is no love, no science, and everyone is equal and of one entity, one man defies the group to be his own person. That is a serious offense.

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# 1. Amy Tan, The Joy Luck Club

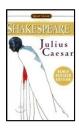
In 1949 four Chinese women-drawn together by the shadow of their past-begin meeting in San Francisco to play mah jong, invest in stocks, eat dim sum, and "say" stories. They call their gathering the Joy Luck Club. Nearly forty years later, one of the members has died, and her daughter has come to take her place, only to learn of her mother's lifelong wish-and the tragic way in which it has come true. The revelation of this secret unleashes an urgent need among the women to reach back and remember... In this extraordinary first work of fiction, Amy Tan writes about what is lost-over the years, between generations, among friends-and what is saved.



## 2. Charles Dickens, Great Expectations

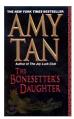
#### Dickens's magnificent novel of guilt, desire, and redemption

The orphan Pip's terrifying encounter with an escaped convict on the Kent marshes, and his mysterious summons to the house of Miss Havisham and her cold, beautiful ward Estella, form the prelude to his "great expectations." How Pip comes into a fortune, what he does with it, and what he discovers through his secret benefactor are the ingredients of his struggle for moral redemption.



### 3. William Shakespeare, Julius Caesar

"Et tu Brute?" One of Shakespeare's best works, revised and repackaged, featuring a new Overview by Sylvan Barnet, former Chairman of the English Department at Tufts University. Includes an updated bibliography, suggested references, stage and film history, and an overview of Shakespeare's life.



## 4. <u>Amy Tan</u>, The Bonesetter's Daughter

""The Bonesetter's Daughter dramatically chronicles the tortured, devoted relationship between LuLing Young and her daughter Ruth.... A strong novel, filled with idiosyncratic, sympathetic characters, haunting images, historical complexity, significant contemporary themes, and suspenseful mystery." -"Los Angeles Times

"For Tan, the true keeper of memory is language, and so the novel is layered with stories that have been written down-by mothers for their daughters, passing along secrets that cannot be said out loud but must not be forgotten."

-"The "New York Times Book Review



## 5. William Shakespeare, The Oxford Shakespeare : A Midsummer Night's Dream

This edition of one of Shakespeare's most beloved comedies features a freshly edited text of the play, sceneby-scene explanatory notes, a key to famous lines and phrases, and much more. Reissue.