Summer Reading for students entering Literary Genres

The first marking period of the Literary Genres class focuses on Horror and Gothic fiction. Read a selection from the list of recommended stories below, all of which are available online and can be found with a Google search. If you prefer, you may pick a horror story on your own. After you have finished reading the story, develop a written reflection in which you respond to the prompt below:

● *Horror often deals with subjects that some readers find very distasteful. Some critics have even argued that horror fiction causes readers to think and act in unhealthy, morbid ways. Why might libraries, including those located in high schools, choose to offer their readers such controversial material? What redeeming value might such stories have? Use the title you have read for summer reading as the basis for your response.*

This assignment will provide your teacher with a sample of your writing and help him identify those areas on which you can work together to make yours a successful year. It will also earn you up to four points of extra credit in the first marking period.

Your reflection should be well developed (approximately 2 pages will do), written in complete sentences and paragraphs, and include specific support from your reading and own experiences. You may compose your response in the first person, but should take care to proofread your writing prior to submission.

If you have any questions, please contact me at jduval@hvrhs.org

Enjoy your reading. I look forward to meeting you in August!

Recommended Stories

"The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" by Washington Irving	"The Scythe" by Ray Bradbury
"The Tell-Tale Heart" by Edgar Allan Poe	"The Horla" by Guy de Maupassant
"The Outsider" by H.P. Lovecraft	"The Pelican Bar" by Karen Jay Fowler
"How to Get Back to the Forest" by Sofia Samatar	"The Lottery" by Shirley Jackson
"The Wilds" by Julia Elliott	"Shadows on the Wall" Mary W. Freeman
"Abraham's Boys" by Joe Hill	"The Boogeyman" by Stephen King