

Dear 10th Grade English Scholars,

This is my friendly reminder to you that you have summer reading. Depending on when you read this, you either have a whole summer ahead of you or several weeks. You still have time; however, time is ticking. So, to help you along, here are a few comments:

1. *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley is your summer reading. Please buy the copy recommended on the school website; it will make class discussions more productive for you.
2. We will use this book extensively in the first three weeks of school and you will need to know the story. We will refer to it throughout the year.
3. This story has three different narrators and is kind of like an onion. The story starts with the writings of a ship captain, then goes to a narrative by Frankenstein, then a narrative from the monster, then Frankenstein, then finishes with the ship captain. Don't let it throw you off track.
4. There is plenty of action once you get into the meat of the story. Don't give up.
5. Watching any version of a Frankenstein movie will not properly prepare you ... *Abbot and Costello Meet Frankenstein, Frankenweenie, Young Frankenstein, The Bride of Frankenstein, Igor, Edward Scissorhands*, etc. etc. etc. Sorry, you just have to read it! In fact, many of the classic stories get the story all wrong.

Please note: You will be responsible for annotating in your books (please see the annotation document on the website).

Along with your annotations, please track the following themes:

- Community/Family
- Sacrifice
- Life/Creation
- Revenge
- Fate/Free Will

I look forward to seeing you all next school year.

Blessings,

Mrs. Ryden