

Reading List 2020

British Literature

1. *Beowulf* (Seamus Heaney, trans.) (comp. 975–1025)
2. Geoffrey Chaucer, from *The Canterbury Tales*, “The General Prologue,” “The Wife of Bath’s Prologue,” and “The Wife of Bath’s Tale” (1387–1400)
3. *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* (c. 1390)
4. William Shakespeare, *Othello* (first performance 1604) and *The Tempest* (c. 1611)
5. John Donne, “The Canonization”; “A Valediction Forbidding Mourning”; “The Flea”; “Satire 3”
6. George Herbert: “The Altar,” “Redemption,” “The Collar,” “The Pulley”
7. John Milton, “When I Consider How My Light Is Spent” (1673) and *Paradise Lost* Books I, II, and IX
8. Alexander Pope, *The Rape of the Lock* (1717, 5-canto version)
9. Jane Austen, *Emma* (1815)
10. John Keats, “On First Looking into Chapman’s Homer” (1816) and “Ode to a Nightingale” (1820)
11. Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein* (1818) [not 1831]
12. Oscar Wilde, *The Importance of Being Earnest* (1895)
13. James Joyce, from *Dubliners*, “The Dead” (1914)
14. T. S. Eliot, *The Waste Land* (1922), “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock,” “Rhapsody on a Windy Night,” “Sweeney Erect,” “Ash-Wednesday,” “Journey of the Magi”
15. W. B. Yeats, “The Second Coming,” “Leda and the Swan,” “Sailing to Byzantium”
16. Virginia Woolf, *To the Lighthouse* (1927)
17. Caryl Churchill, *Top Girls* (1982)
18. Julian Barnes, *Flaubert’s Parrot* (1984)
19. Zadie Smith, *Swing Time* (2016)

American literature

1. Anne Bradstreet, “The Author to her Book,” “A Letter to her Husband, absent upon Publick employment,” “To My Dear and Loving Husband”
2. Ralph Waldo Emerson, “Self-Reliance” (1841)
3. Nathaniel Hawthorne, *The Scarlet Letter* (1850)
4. Frederick Douglass, “What to a Slave is the 4th of July” (1852)
5. Herman Melville, *Benito Cereno* (1855)
6. Walt Whitman, “Song of Myself” (1855)
7. Emily Dickinson, “There’s a certain Slant of light,” “Safe in their Alabaster Chambers,” “Some keep the Sabbath going to Church—,” “I started Early—Took my Dog—,” “I’m Nobody! Who are you?,” “Tell all the Truth but tell it slant—,” “I felt a Funeral in my Brain,” “Because I could not stop for Death—,” “I heard a Fly buzz—when I died—” and “My Life had stood—a Loaded Gun”
8. Kate Chopin, *The Awakening* (1899)
9. W.E.B. Du Bois, from *The Souls of Black Folk*, “Of Our Spiritual Strivings” (1903)
10. Willa Cather, *My Ántonia* (1918)
11. Gwendolyn Brooks, from *A Street in Bronzville*: “the mother” and “kitchenette building” (1945); “the Anniad” (1949)

12. John Okada, *No-No Boy* (1957)
13. Ralph Ellison, from *Invisible Man* (1952), "Prologue"
14. James Baldwin, *The Fire Next Time* (1963)
15. Maxine Hong Kingston, *The Woman Warrior* (1976)
16. Toni Morrison, *Song of Solomon* (1977)
17. Chang Rae Lee, *Native Speaker* (1995)
18. Salvador Plascencia, *The People of Paper* (2005)

Theory

1. TS Eliot, "Reflections on *Vers Libre*" (1917), "Tradition and the Individual Talent" (1919), "The Perfect Critic" (1920), "The Function of Criticism" (1923), "Religion and Literature" (1935)
2. Walter Benjamin, "Theses on the Philosophy of History" (1940)
3. Michel Foucault, from *Discipline and Punish*, "The Carceral" (1975); from *The History of Sexuality*, Volume 1, An Introduction, Part Two: "The Repressive Hypothesis" (1976)
4. Dorrit Cohn, "Transparent Minds: Narrative Modes for Presenting Consciousness in Fiction" (1984), in Michael McKeon's *Theory of the Novel: A Historical Approach* (2000)
5. Benedict Anderson, "Imagined Communities" (1983), in Michael McKeon's *Theory of the Novel: A Historical Approach* (2000)
6. Linda Hutcheon, "Historiographic Metafiction" from *A Poetics of Postmodernism* (1988)
7. Lois Tyson, *Critical Theory Today* (2nd ed. 2006)
8. S Ahmed, "Bringing Feminist Theory Home" and "Willfulness and Subjectivity" from *Living a Feminist Life* (2017)