



**Phillips Exeter Academy**  
*Department of English*

**READING LIST**  
**2008 - 2009**

Asterisks identify texts that have been popular and used successfully in English courses up to 2002. Ideally, the department will review this survey of current practice every 2-3 years; this list was updated in May of 2008. Teachers are not required to teach any of the texts listed, but they may not use a text *earlier* than the course in which it appears. Many teachers often use a text by the poet visiting in the Lamont Poetry series during the term of the visit (Major Jackson will be with us this fall), or a play being produced as a main stage production, as well as other texts of comparable complexity that do not appear on this list. For this fall and winter only, in order to take advantage of a local fall production, *Macbeth* has been moved to 220 and *The Merchant of Venice* has been moved to 210.

# ENGLISH 120-130

This sequence of courses focuses on the observation and selection of the concrete details that make writing vivid. Students practice the use of such details in a variety of assignments that may include descriptions, narratives, letters, journal entries, and expository paragraphs, and they gain experience in distinguishing showing from telling. They also write short in-class or overnight responses to their reading. Those readings often complement the emphasis on writing from experience.

## English 120

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### POETRY

Frost, A BOY'S WILL AND NORTH OF BOSTON\*  
Housman, A SHROPSHIRE LAD  
Heaney, POEMS: 1965-75 ("Death of a Naturalist" poems)\*  
St. Vincent Millay, SELECTED POEMS  
W. C. Williams, SELECTED POEMS

### DRAMA

Fugard, MASTER HAROLD AND THE BOYS\*  
Gurney, LOVE LETTERS\*  
Shakespeare, TAMING OF THE SHREW\*  
                  JULIUS CAESAR\*  
                  ROMEO AND JULIET

### NON-FICTION

Baker, GROWING UP  
Dahl, COMPLETELY UNEXPECTED TALES  
Goodman, selections from CLOSE TO HOME  
                  selections from AT LARGE  
Strunk and White, THE ELEMENTS OF STYLE  
Wolff, THIS BOY'S LIFE\*  
Wright, BLACK BOY\*  
Yeziarsha, BREADGIVERS

## **SHORT STORIES**

Bamabara, GORILLA, MY LOVE

## **NOVELS**

Chappell, I AM ONE OF YOU FOREVER\*

Cisneros, THE HOUSE ON MANGO STREET\*

Coelho, THE ALCHEMIST\*

Dickens, OLIVER TWIST\*

Fitzgerald, Penelope, THE BOOKSHOP

Greene, THE QUIET AMERICAN

Hemingway, THE OLD MAN AND THE SEA\*

Hersey, A SINGLE PEBBLE\*

Kincaid, ANNIE JOHN

Lee, TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD

London, THE SEA WOLF

Petry, THE STREET

Salinger, CATCHER IN THE RYE\*

Solzhenitsyn, ONE DAY IN THE LIFE OF IVAN DENISOVICH\*

Watson, MONTANA, 1948

## **English 130**

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## **POETRY**

Blake, SONGS OF INNOCENCE AND SONGS OF EXPERIENCE\*

Brooks, SELECTED POEMS

Coleridge, RIME OF THE ANCIENT MARINER\*

Cummings, SELECTED POEMS

Doty, ATLANTIS

Dove, THE YELLOW HOUSE ON THE CORNER

Ferry (tr.), GILGAMESH

Homer, THE ODYSSEY (Fitzgerald translation)

THE ILIAD (Fitzgerald translation)

Kennedy, X.J., ed. INTRODUCTION TO POETRY\*

Oliver, TWELVE MOONS\*

# THE COLLECTED POEMS OF THEODORE ROETHKE

## **DRAMA**

Gogol, THE INSPECTOR GENERAL  
Mamet, THE CRYPTOGRAM  
Rose, TWELVE ANGRY MEN  
Shakespeare, MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING\*  
                  RICHARD III\*  
Shaw, ANDROCLES AND THE LION  
                  THE DEVIL'S DISCIPLE  
Stoppard, THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND  
Wilson, THE PIANO LESSON\*

## **NON-FICTION**

Angelou, I KNOW WHY THE CAGED BIRD SINGS\*  
Brent, INCIDENTS IN THE LIFE OF A SLAVE GIRL  
Lee, CIDER WITH ROSIE (Penguin UK)

## **SHORT STORIES**

Salinger, NINE STORIES\*  
P. Fitzgerald, THE MEANS OF ESCAPE

## **NOVELS**

Bronte, JANE EYRE\*  
Carroll, ALICE IN WONDERLAND THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS  
Cather, MY MORTAL ENEMY  
Dickens, A TALE OF TWO CITIES\*  
Dorris, A YELLOW RAFT IN BLUE WATER\*  
Golding, LORD OF THE FLIES\*  
Hall, STRING TOO SHORT TO BE SAVED  
Hartley, THE GO-BETWEEN  
Hurston, MULES AND MEN  
Kingsolver, THE BEAN TREES\*  
Malory, MORTE D'ARTHUR  
Marquez, CHRONICLE OF A DEATH FORETOLD  
Martin, MARY REILLY (suggested as a pair with DR. JEKYLL

AND MR. HYDE

Moody, COMING OF AGE IN MISSISSIPPI

Maxwell, SO LONG, SEE YOU TOMORROW\*

Potok, MY NAME IS ASHER LEV\*

O'Connor, selections from COLLECTED SHORT STORIES

Pushkin, THE CAPTAIN'S DAUGHTER AND OTHER STORIES

Stevenson, DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE\*

Twain, THE ADVENTURES OF HUCKLEBERRY FINN\*

PUDD'NHEAD WILSON

# ENGLISH 210-220-230

In this sequence of courses, readings introduce broader and more complex personal and social issues. The writing assignments, ranging from personal narratives and personal essays to letters, editorials, poetry projects, and responses to the readings, encourage awareness of audience and exploration of perspective. In the spring term, students are likely to produce a sustained piece of writing based on research into their family history. The reading list includes a play by Shakespeare. A student normally has the same teacher for the second and third terms.

## English 210

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### POETRY

Clifton, AN ORDINARY WOMAN  
Dove, MOTHER LOVE  
Kendrick, THE WOMEN OF PLUMS  
Justice, NEW AND SELECTED POEMS  
Lee, ROSE  
Oliver, AMERICAN PRIMITIVE\*  
Thomas (Dylan), SELECTED POEMS

### DRAMA

Mamet, AMERICAN BUFFALO  
Shaffer, THE ROYAL HUNT OF THE SUN  
Shaw, ARMS AND THE MAN  
Shakespeare, THE MERCHANT OF VENICE\*  
Wolfe, THE COLORED MUSEUM

### NON-FICTION

Hurston, DUST TRACKS ON A ROAD  
Stewart, LETTERS OF A WOMAN HOMESTEADER  
Wiesel, NIGHT

## **SHORT STORIES**

Alexi, THE LONE RANGER AND TONTO FISTFIGHT IN HEAVEN  
Crane, MAGGIE, A GIRL OF THE STREETS\*  
Diaz, DROWN  
Gogol, DIARY OF A MADMAN AND OTHER STORIES  
Huddle, ONLY THE LITTLE BONE\*

## **NOVELS**

Baldwin, GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN\*  
Banks, THE SWEET HEREAFTER  
Davies, FIFTH BUSINESS  
Defoe, ROBINSON CRUSOE  
Haddon, THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN  
THE NIGHT-TIME  
Hardy, TESS OF THE D'URBERVILLES\*  
Kingsolver, ANIMAL DREAMS\*  
Knowles, A SEPARATE PEACE\*  
Lewis, SCREWTAPE LETTERS\*  
Mason, IN COUNTRY\*  
Remarque, ALL QUIET ON THE WESTERN FRONT\*  
Richter, THE APPRENTICESHIP OF DUDDY KRAVITZ  
Spark, THE PRIME OF MISS JEAN BRODIE  
Steinbeck, THE GRAPES OF WRATH\*  
Thomas, PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST AS A YOUNG DOG  
Vonnegut, CAT'S CRADLE\*  
Wilde, PICTURE OF DORIAN GREY\*

## **English 220**

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## **POETRY**

Arnold, DOVER BEACH AND OTHER POEMS (selected/Dover)  
BOWWOLF\*  
Browning (R.), MY LAST DUCHESS AND OTHER POEMS (selected/Dover)  
Dove, THOMAS AND BEULAH  
Glück, THE WILD IRIS  
Komunyakaa, MAGIC CITY  
Tennyson, (selected/DOVER)  
Wilbur, SELECTED POEMS  
Wright (James), THE BRANCH WILL NOT BREAK

## **DRAMA**

Anouilh, BECKET  
Eliot, MURDER IN THE CATHEDRAL  
Shakespeare, MACBETH  
RICHARD II\*  
KING JOHN  
Shaw, MAJOR BARBARA  
Williams, THE GLASS MENAGERIE\*  
Wilson, MA RAINEY' S BLACK BOTTOM

## **NON-FICTION**

Cary, BLACK ICE\*  
Baker, THE PRACTICAL STYLIST  
Gen, WHO'S IRISH?

## **SHORT STORIES**

Wolff, THE NIGHT IN QUESTION

## **NOVELS**

Cather, MY ANTONIA\*  
Conrad, THE ROVER  
Conroy, STOP-TIME\*  
Dangarembga, NERVOUS CONDITIONS  
Dickens, GREAT EXPECTATIONS\*  
Doctorow, RAGTIME\*

Eliot, SILAS MARNER\*  
Faulkner, AS I LAY DYING\*  
P. Fitzgerald, OFFSHORE  
Gardner, GRENDEL\*  
Hardy, FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD\*  
Hemingway, A FAREWELL TO ARMS\*  
Hulme, THE BONE PEOPLE  
Huxley, BRAVE NEW WORLD\*  
Malamud, THE NATURAL\*  
Mathabane, KAFFIR BOY  
McCullers, A MEMBER OF THE WEDDING  
Minot, MONKEYS  
Morrison, THE BLUEST EYE  
Neihardt, BLACK ELK SPEAKS  
Paton, CRY, THE BELOVED COUNTRY\*  
Simon, BRONX PRIMITIVE  
Walker, THE COLOR PURPLE  
Welty, GOLDEN APPLES  
West, THE DAY OF THE LOCUST  
Wharton, ETHAN FROME\*

## **English 230**

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### **POETRY**

Boland, OUTSIDE HISTORY  
Chaucer, THE CANTERBURY TALES (Coghill, tr.)  
Hayden, SELECTED POEMS  
O'Hara, SELECTED POEMS  
PENGUIN BOOK OF WWI POETS  
Pratt, IN THE ORCHARD\*  
SIR GAWAIN AND THE GREEN KNIGHT\*  
Hughes (Langston), SELECTED POEMS

### **DRAMA**

Miller, THE CRUCIBLE\*  
Guare, SIX DEGREES OF SEPARATION  
Hansberry, RAISIN IN THE SUN  
Hellman, CHILDREN'S HOUR  
Leavitt, THE ANDERSONVILLE TRIAL  
Rostand, CYRANO DE BERGERAC  
Shakespeare, HENRY IV, Parts 1 & 2\*  
          A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM\*  
Shaw, CAESAR AND CLEOPATRA  
          PYGMALION  
Simon, BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS  
Wilson, TWO TRAINS RUNNING

### **NON-FICTION**

Krakauer, INTO THE WILD\*  
Ellison, FLYING HOME

### **SHORT STORIES**

Anderson, WINESBURG, OHIO\*  
O'Brien, THE THINGS THEY CARRIED\*

### **NOVELS**

Dickens HARD TIMES\*  
          MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD  
Faulkner, THE REIVERS\*  
Gilman, HERLAND  
Hardy, THE MAYOR OF CASTERBRIDGE\*  
Kesey, ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST  
Kingston, CHINA MEN  
Kinsella, SHOELESS JOE  
Krauss, THE HISTORY OF LOVE  
Orwell, 1984  
Marshall, BROWN GIRL BROWNSTONES  
McCullers, THE HEART IS A LONELY HUNTER  
Murray, TRAIN WHISTLE GUITAR  
Shelley, FRANKENSTEIN\*

Spiegelman, MAUS (graphic novel)  
Steinbeck, IN DUBIOUS BATTLE  
Swift, GULLIVER'S TRAVELS\*  
Tan, THE JOY LUCK CLUB\*  
Updike, THE CENTAUR  
Voltaire, CANDIDE  
Waugh, THE LOVED ONE  
Woolf, JACOB'S ROOM



## **NON-FICTION**

Baldwin, THE FIRE NEXT TIME  
Capote, IN COLD BLOOD\*  
Didion, SLOUCHING TOWARDS BETHLEHEM\*  
Emerson, SELECTED ESSAYS\*  
Hall, REMEMBERING POETS  
Thomas, THE LIVES OF A CELL  
White, ESSAYS OF E.B. WHITE\*  
    HERE IS NEW YORK  
Wolfe, THE NEW JOURNALISM  
Zinsser, ON WRITING WELL

## **SHORT STORIES**

Cerf, GREAT MODERN SHORT STORIES  
Cheever, THE COLLECTED STORIES  
Hemingway, THE NICK ADAMS STORIES\*  
    IN OUR TIME\*  
Kingston, SELECTED SHORT STORIES  
Lahiri, INTERPRETER OF MALADIES\*  
Oates, SELECTED STORIES  
Updike, PIGEON FEATHERS  
    SELECTED SHORT STORIES

## **NOVELS**

Alexi, INDIAN KILLER  
Cather, A LOST LADY\*  
    DEATH COMES FOR THE ARCHBISHOP  
Faulkner, INTRUDER IN THE DUST\*  
    SARTORIS [FLAGS IN THE DUST]  
Fitzgerald, THE GREAT GATSBY\*  
Fitzgerald, P., OFFSHORE  
Ford, THE GOOD SOLDIER  
James, THE AMERICAN\*  
Kingston, THE WOMAN WARRIOR\*  
Malamud, THE MAGIC BARREL AND OTHER STORIES

McCarthy, ALL THE PRETTY HORSES\*  
Morrison, SONG OF SOLOMON\*  
Naipaul, A BEND IN THE RIVER  
Paton, TOO LATE THE PHALAROPE\*  
Percy, THE LAST GENTLEMAN  
Roth, GOODBYE, COLUMBUS  
Wharton, SUMMER

## **English 320**

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### **POETRY**

Bishop, GEOGRAPHY III\*  
Fairchild, ART OF THE LATHE  
Herbert, SELECTED POEMS (Penguin)  
Hopkins, SELECTED (Penguin)  
Howe, WHAT THE LIVING DO  
Larkin, WHITSUN WEDDINGS  
Moore, SELECTED POEMS  
Voigt, KYRIE  
Walcott, OMEROS

### **DRAMA**

Bolt, A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS  
Ibsen, HEDDA GABBLER  
Miller, DEATH OF A SALESMAN\*  
Shaffer, AMADEUS  
Shakespeare, THE TEMPEST\*  
                  ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA  
                  TROIUS AND CRESSIDA  
Sophocles, ANTIGONE  
Wilson, JOE TURNER' S COME AND GONE

### **NON-FICTION**

Anzaldua, BORDERLANDS: LA FRONTERA  
Beah, A LONG WAY GONE

Orwell, A COLLECTION OF ESSAYS\*  
McPhee, (The First) JOHN MCPHEE READER

## **SHORT STORIES**

Hawthorne, SELECTED SHORT STORIES\*  
Babel, THE COLLECTED STORIES  
Maxwell, ALL THE DAYS AND NIGHTS  
McLeod, ISLAND

## **NOVELS**

Achebe, THINGS FALL APART\*  
Adichie, PURPLE HIBISCUS  
Austen, PRIDE AND PREJUDICE\*  
Conrad, HEART OF DARKNESS\*  
          THE SECRET SHARER  
Faulkner, THE UNVANQUISHED\*  
          GO DOWN MOSES  
Greene, THE HEART OF THE MATTER  
Heller, CATCH 22\*  
Hemingway, FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS\*  
James, THE TURN OF THE SCREW  
Kafka, IN THE PENAL COLONY  
Kincaid, A SMALL PLACE  
Koestler, DARKNESS AT NOON  
Malamud, THE ASSISTANT\*  
Melville, BENITO CERENO  
Oates, THE WHEEL OF LOVE  
Phillips, MACHINE DREAMS  
Porter, FLOWERING JUDAS  
Swift, WATERLAND  
Theroux, MOSQUITO COAST  
Tolstoy, ANNA KARENINA  
Updike, RABBIT RUN  
Wright, NATIVE SON\*

# English 330

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## POETRY

Donne, SELECTED POEMS

Eliot, "Hollow Men" & "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock"\*

H.D., SELECTED POEMS

Pound, SELECTED POEMS (New Directions)

Stevens, COLLECTED POEMS (Vintage)

Yeats, SELECTED POEMS AND THREE PLAYS\*

## DRAMA

Albee, WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?\*

Chekhov, THE CHERRY ORCHARD

Friel TRANSLATIONS

Ibsen, AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE

GHOSTS

Shakespeare, KING JOHN

TWELFTH NIGHT\*

MEASURE FOR MEASURE

Williams, A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE\*

## NON-FICTION

Lawrence, SELECTED ESSAYS

Thomas, MEDUSA AND THE SNAIL

## SHORT STORIES

Canin, THE PALACE THIEF

Chekhov, WARD SIX AND OTHER STORIES

Murakami, AFTER THE QUAKE

O'Connor, A GOOD MAN IS HARD TO FIND\*

Gordimer, SELECTED SHORT STORIES

## NOVELS

Cather, THE PROFESSOR'S HOUSE

Cheever, THE WAPSHOT SCANDAL

Conrad, VICTORY

THE NIGGER OF THE NARCISSUS

Didion, PLAY IT AS IT LAYS

Dostoevsky, CRIME AND PUNISHMENT\*

Greene, THE POWER AND THE GLORY\*

Hardy, THE RETURN OF THE NATIVE

Hawthorne, THE SCARLET LETTER\*

Hurston, THEIR EYES WERE WATCHING GOD\*

Lawrence, SONS AND LOVERS

McCullers, BALLAD OF THE SAD CAFE

McDonell, TWELVE

Morrison, SULA\*

JAZZ

Melville, BILLY BUDD\*

O'Connor, THE NORTON READER THREE

Percy, LOST IN THE COSMOS

Southgate, THE FALL OF ROME

Tate, THE FATHERS

Woolf, MRS. DALLOWAY\*

Yates, REVOLUTIONARY ROAD

Warren, BROTHER TO DRAGONS

# ENGLISH 410-420

This two-term course gives students the opportunity to refine skills developed in previous courses. In the fall term the reading list includes a play by Shakespeare. Students exercise both their power of invention and their analytical skills in a variety of assignments that may range from the writing of poetry or fiction to the writing of expository essays, including literary criticism. In the winter term, students may read just one long text since the English department believes that seniors need and are ready for sustained study. Students gain confidence as readers through the very act of completing such texts. They develop their ability to manage multiple complex themes developed simultaneously, interwoven plots, complex narrative structures, and characters that develop and change in more complex ways. Students learn how essential memory is as they see how events, characters, and images from earlier chapters develop and come to fruition hundreds of pages later. They strengthen their ability to read backwards through a book even as they make their way toward its completion. While reading the long text, a variety of writing exercises reinforce students' reading skills: weekly analytical writing, reading journals, in-class writing. Many students compose and deliver a meditation inspired by those offered weekly in Phillips Church, or write a paper, analytical or creative, of equal length and commitment. A student normally has the same teacher for the two terms.

## English 410

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### POETRY

Eliot, FOUR QUARTETS\*

Graham, THE DREAM OF THE UNIFIED FIELD

Keats, ODES

Milton, PARADISE LOST\*

### DRAMA

Beckett, WAITING FOR GODOT\*

Chekhov, THE SEAGULL

THREE SISTERS

Jones, HUMBLE BOY

Shakespeare, HAMLET\*  
Shaw, MAN AND SUPERMAN  
Sophocles, OEDIPUS REX\*  
Stoppard, ROSENCRANTZ AND GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD  
Wasserstein, UNCOMMON WOMEN AND OTHERS  
Wilson, FENCES

### **NON-FICTION**

Montaigne, SELECTIONS FROM THE ESSAYS\*  
Nabokov, SPEAK, MEMORY  
Dubus, MEDITATIONS FROM A MOVEABLE CHAIR  
A BOOK OF MEDITATIONS\*

### **SHORT STORIES**

Carver, WHERE I'M CALLING FROM  
Jewett, THE COUNTRY OF THE POINTED FIRS AND  
OTHER STORIES  
Joyce, DUBLINERS\*  
Mann, DEATH IN VENICE AND SEVEN OTHER STORIES  
Munro, OPEN SECRETS  
O'Connor, EVERYTHING THAT RISES MUST CONVERGE\*  
Salinger, FRANNY AND ZOOEY\*  
Welty, COLLECTED STORIES

### **NOVELS**

Bronte, WUTHERING HEIGHTS\*  
Calvino, THE BARON IN THE TREES  
COSMICOMICS  
Conrad, LORD JIM  
DeLillo, WHITE NOISE  
Ellison, INVISIBLE MAN\*  
Sundquist, ed., CULTURAL CONTEXT FOR INVISIBLE MAN\*  
Faulkner, LIGHT IN AUGUST\*  
Greer, ed., THAT'S WHAT SHE SAID  
Hemingway, THE SUN ALSO RISES\*  
THE SNOWS OF KILIMANJARO AND OTHER STORIES

James, THE EUROPEANS  
Kundera, THE UNBEARABLE LIGHTNESS OF BEING\*  
Melville, MOBY DICK  
Morrison, BELOVED\*  
Percy, LOVE IN THE RUINS  
Wharton, THE AGE OF INNOCENCE\*  
Oates, THEM  
Silko, CEREMONY  
Walker, MERIDIAN

## **English 420**

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### **POETRY**

Ashbery, SELECTED POEMS  
Auden, SELECTED POEMS (Vintage)  
Crane, THE BRIDGE  
Dante, THE DIVINE COMEDY\*  
Eliot, THE WASTE LAND\*  
McHugh, HINGE & SIGN  
Wordsworth, THE PRELUDE (“five-book” of 1804, Blackwell, or excerpts)

### **DRAMA**

Harwood, THE DRESSER  
Mamet, GLENGARRY GLEN ROSS  
O'Neill, LONG DAY'S JOURNEY INTO NIGHT  
Shakespeare, KING LEAR\*  
Shaw, SAINT JOAN

### **NON-FICTION**

Didion, SALVADOR  
Thoreau, WALDEN  
Woolf, MOMENTS OF BEING (excerpts)

### **SHORT STORIES**

Borges, COLLECTED FICTIONS

Dubus, IN THE BEDROOM

## **NOVELS**

Austen, EMMA\*

Chopin, THE AWAKENING\*

Dostoevsky, THE BROTHERS KARAMAZOV\*

Eliot, MIDDLEMARCH\*

Faulkner, THE SOUND AND THE FURY\*

Forster, A PASSAGE TO INDIA

Howard, THE MODERN TRADITION

James, PORTRAIT OF A LADY

DAISY MILLER

Joyce, PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST AS A YOUNG MAN\*

Naylor, LINDEN HILLS

Ondaatje, THE ENGLISH PATIENT

Percy, THE MOVIE-GOER

Salinger, FRANNY AND ZOOEY

Turgenev, FATHERS AND SONS

Warren, ALL THE KING'S MEN\*

Woolf, TO THE LIGHTHOUSE