**Novel Response Journal**

As you read your novel, please keep a journal.

The purpose of this journal is to provide a place where you can explore your thoughts about and reactions to the novel and where you can demonstrate the development of your knowledge and understanding to me.

This journal will take the place of reading quizzes for this novel. Therefore, I expect to see regular entries. I will stamp entries in class to verify that you are making regular progress.

Occasionally I will give you specific tasks that I’d like you to include (like the reflection on yourself as a reader that you wrote last time, or the discussion questions that I asked you to bring today), but for most entries you can choose your own form.

Possible forms might include:

* summaries of sections of the novel;
* character lists with descriptions or analysis;
* personal reactions—how you feel about the text; what you like/dislike; your emotions, judgments/critiques; notes about memories or ideas that are triggered by the text;
* questions;
* notes on historical or biographical context;
* creative writing, such as pastiche (imitation), a letter a character might write, etc.;
* sketches/diagrams/charts/drawings about settings, character movements, etc.;
* anything else that shows your thinking in response to the text.

The physical form of the journal can be a notebook or computer file that you keep specifically for this purpose, or a series of loose-leaf pages that you staple together.

I will give you some time for reading and writing in class, but you will also need to spend time on this as homework.

The journal will be due Tuesday, April 10.

Assessment will be based on completeness/timeliness (is a sufficient number of entries included? have entries been completed over the complete time span of reading the novel, as indicated by stamps?) and the degree to which the journal shows your engagement with, understanding of, and thoughts about the novel. 50 points possible.