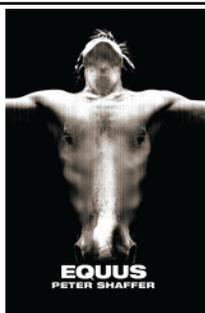
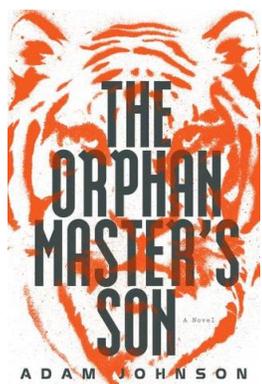


School of the Arts
Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition
2022-2023 Summer Reading Selections



***Equus*, Peter Shaffer, 1975 (play)**

Shaffer's drama raises numerous questions regarding the stifling effects of modern civilization. After a teenage boy in a fit of passion blinds six horses, his psychiatrist is thrown into an identity crisis, unsure whether to "cure" the boy or learn from him.



***The Orphan Master's Son*, Adam Johnson, 2012 (novel)**

An epic novel and a thrilling literary discovery, *The Orphan Master's Son* follows a young man's journey through the icy waters, dark tunnels, and eerie spy chambers of the world's most mysterious dictatorship, North Korea.

Pak Jun Do is the haunted son of a lost mother - a singer "stolen" to Pyongyang - and an influential father who runs Long Tomorrows, a work camp for orphans. There the boy is given his first taste of power, picking which orphans eat first and which will be lent out for manual labor. Recognized for his loyalty and keen instincts, Jun Do comes to the attention of superiors in the state, rises in the ranks, and starts on a road from which there will be no return.

Considering himself "a humble citizen of the greatest nation in the world," Jun Do becomes a professional kidnapper who must navigate the shifting rules, arbitrary violence, and baffling demands of his Korean overlords in order to stay alive. Driven to the absolute limit of what any human being could endure, he boldly takes on the treacherous role of rival to Kim Jong Il in an attempt to save the woman he loves, Sun Moon, a legendary actress "so pure, she didn't know what starving people looked like."

Part breathless thriller, part story of innocence lost, part story of romantic love, *The Orphan Master's Son* is also a riveting portrait of a world heretofore hidden from view: a North Korea rife with hunger, corruption, and casual cruelty but also camaraderie, stolen moments of beauty, and love. A towering literary achievement, *The Orphan Master's Son* ushers Adam Johnson into the small group of today's greatest writers.

Instructions:

Read and annotate both works. Annotations should reveal close reading.

Evaluation:

- 1) Annotations will be graded according to how well they demonstrate close reading. Do not annotate for the sake of annotating. Annotate significant stylistic and thematic elements so you can find them again. Annotations are intended to document your reading experience.
- 2) Students will take an objective test on both works on the first day of class.
- 3) Students will participate in a graded discussion on the works.

Please email questions to John_Cusatis@charleston.k12.sc.us