

Ray Bradbury: A Life in Metaphors

Frank Palumbo – English teacher at Gouverneur CHS

3 sessions 1 ½ hours each (SUNY Potsdam: Kellas 217)

Wednesdays: 3/14, 3/21, 3/28 – 12:30-2:00 (note change: class meets 1½ hours, not 1 hour)

A .pdf of this page is posted on the "Ray Bradbury..." course page of the SOAR web site: www.soarnorthcountry.org

Suggested titles assigned as personal reading. Choose any of the following novels:

Dandelion Wine

Fahrenheit 451

Martian Chronicles

Something Wicked this Way Comes

Short Stories to be read outside of class and discussed as a group (instructor will provide a collection of Bradbury stories at the first class session on March 14th):

"The Great Wide World Over There"

"The Big Black and White Game"

"All Summer in a Day"

"The Murderer"

"The Pedestrian"

"To the Chicago Abyss"

"The Veldt"

"There Will come Soft Rains"

"The Exiles"

"The Sound of Thunder"

"The Foghorn"

"The Anthem Sprinters"

"The Drummer Boy of Shiloh"

Websites to reference background of Ray Bradbury's life and works:

<http://www.raybradbury.com/>

<http://www.bradburymedia.co.uk/>

<http://www.spaceagecity.com/bradbury/bio.htm>

<http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0001969/>

<http://www.isfdb.org/cgi-bin/ea.cgi?194>

Session 1: 3/14

- >Introductory discussion related to Mr. Bradbury's many exchanges with class instructor Frank Palumbo
- >Review of materials from personal library of items received over the years (books, photos, letters, etc.)
- >Reading of the story "Drummer Boy of Shiloh" so as to familiarize participants with the author's style, images, and poetic narration
- >Video of an RB short story, "To the Chicago Abyss"
- >Discussion, handout of an outline related to assigned readings for week #2

Session 2: 3/21

- >Open discussion on any of the extra readings from suggested titles
- >Review of the assigned short stories from session one
- >Biographic texts will be passed around and discussed related to Mr. Bradbury's development as a writer
- >Reading of short work by Ray Bradbury: "The Leave Taking"
- >Video of an RB short story, "Usher II" or "The Veldt"
- >Discussion, handout of an outline related to assigned readings for week #3

Session 3: 3/28

- >Open discussion on any of the extra readings from suggested titles.
- >Review of the assigned short stories from session two
- >Ray Bradbury's influence on American Literature, Hollywood movies, Music, and NASA
- >Video of an RB short story, "Anthem Sprinters"
- >Concluding discussion related to the materials and topics covered in ~ *Ray Bradbury, Life of Metaphor*
(A letter to Mr. Bradbury will be sent around to be signed and forward to his home.)