



The Green Ember
Book Club

Summer 2019

Welcome!

Class Dates:

5 weeks | Week of June 3rd-Week of July 1st (ending on July 2nd)

Class Times:

Tuesday and Thursday
10am-11am EST (9am-10am CST)

Instructor: Presbytera Maria Koulianos, B.S., M.Div., Th.M.

Email: mkoulianos@hchc.edu

Cell Phone: 260.797.1226 (text available)

Course Text: *The Green Ember* by S.D. Smith

Additional Resource: Composition Notebook

Class Description:

The Green Ember Book Club offers a fun setting where students can enjoy the love of reading together. Students will read one novel over the course of five weeks discussing the book in a relaxed and interactive setting with attention given to whatever topics interest them most about the novel. We will examine the writing and the layers of meaning the novelist intends the reader to experience. Students will then have an opportunity to discuss their thoughts and ask questions

with the author, S.D. Smith, who will make an appearance for the class on July 9th from 10:00-10:45AM!

Discussions will be thought-provoking intended to expose students to the elements of literature, teach literary analysis without the burden of formal assignments, and grow rhetorical insight. Through our student management system *Schoology*, students will be able to informally continue to converse about the book with their peers on our class discussion board. This informal writing of thoughts and insights into the plot of the story will further enrich the learning. For the final week, students will be asked to choose from an array of culminating activities that will enhance learning and allow further discovery through creative expression. Presentations for these culminating projects will be given on the final day.

The Green Ember Book Club will be an opportunity for students to value one another as readers and learners. Reading in turn becomes a social activity, and this encourages them to keep reading increasing their comprehension and the ability to express their thoughts.

Reading Schedule:

Assigned pages should be read BEFORE the start of each class.

Week 1	Tuesday: Prologue, Chapters 1-5	Thursday: Chapters 6-10
Week 2	Tuesday: Chapters 11-15	Thursday: Chapters 16-20
Week 3	Tuesday: Chapters 21-25	Thursday: Chapters 26-30
Week 4	Tuesday: Chapters 31-35	Thursday: Chapters 36-44
Week 5	Tuesday: Present Culminating Activities	

Enrichment Q & A Class with Author S.D. Smith will be on July 9th from 10:00-10:45AM.

Student Conduct and Expectations:

Summer reading book clubs are less formal than yearlong courses, but students are expected to be prepared and participate in class discussions. The main expectation is that students will read the assigned pages of the book. Students may be asked to report on their reading at the beginning the session.

All students are to strive for the *Two Greatest Commandments*; to love God and to love their neighbor as themselves. Please refer to the [Scholé Academy Student Handbook](#) for student conduct and academic integrity.

The Virtual Classroom:

We will be using the free online “virtual classroom” software provided by Zoom, one of the leading companies that provides such software. The virtual classroom will provide students with interactive audio, text chat and an interactive whiteboard in which texts, diagrams, video and other media can be displayed and analyzed. We will provide students with a link (via email) that will enable students to join the virtual classroom.

Specific information regarding the technology used by Scholé Academy (including required technology) can be found by visiting the [Technology in the Classroom](#) section of the Student Parent Handbook. Please note, students should have their cameras on during class.

If needed, students will submit documents by scanning and uploading them to their personal computer, then attaching those files as .pdfs. They will submit their work to the *Green Ember* Schoology assignment page (access granted after enrollment is secured).

About the Instructor:



Presbytera Maria Koulianos has been an educator for over 20 years, loving every minute, with vast experiences in both public and private schools as a classroom teacher, developing and implementing learning programs for students, and as an area administrator. She earned her Bachelor of Science in education from Indiana University with certifications in elementary education, 7/8 non-departmental, language arts 1-9, and computer education K-12. She holds a Master of Divinity and a Master of Theology from Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology in Brookline, MA, where she wrote her thesis, *The Annunciation of the Theotokos from a Liturgical Perspective*. Presbytera Maria and her husband, Father Dionysios, live in the greater Boston area where he is the priest of Saint Catherine’s Greek Orthodox Church in Braintree, MA. She hopes to inspire her students to love literature and become lifelong learners.