**Short Story Assignment**

American Lit

Spring 2015

“There is no greater agony then bearing an untold story inside of you.”

-Maya Angelou, I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings

“Someone needs to tell those tales… There's magic in that. It's in the listener, and for each and every ear it will be different, and it will affect them in ways they can never predict. From the mundane to the profound. You may tell a tale that takes up residence in someone's soul, becomes their blood and self and purpose. That tale will move them and drive them and who knows what they might do because of it, because of your words.”

― [Erin Morgenstern](http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/4370565.Erin_Morgenstern), [*The Night Circus*](http://www.goodreads.com/work/quotes/14245059)

**Why?**

Your voice is an important part of the story of the US. We have studied a number of fantastic American writers and their contributions to short fiction. Now it is time for you to add your voice to the mix.

**What?**

Compose a **3-15pg short story** (typed, 12pt font, Cambria, double spaced).

**When is it due?**

1st rough draft and peer critique= **check calendar on website**

2nd rough draft and peer critique= **check calendar on website**

Final draft short story= **check calendar on website**

**How will it be scored?**

* Rough draft 1= 35pts; peer critique= 30pts
* Rough draft 2= 35 pts; peer critique= 30pts
* Final draft= 70pts