



The Lantern English Co.
Growing Literature

Book Study: *The Green Ember*
Finding Purpose Through Story

Course Description: S.D. Smith's *The Green Ember* presents many ideas worthy of discussion, far too many to cover each one in-depth in just eight weeks. For this class, we have chosen to focus on the theme of purpose, that of finding one's place in the story of life. Students will see how main characters Heather and Picket discover their places in the fight against evil and the preservation of good, whilst learning how to spot hindrances to our individual purposes.

Students will read the complete text of *The Green Ember* and complete weekly written responses. Optional weekly vocabulary lists will be supplied, which can be further expanded at home as daily spelling practice.

Prerequisite: *Essay Basics* or equivalent five-paragraph essay experience.

Required for Class: Students must have a copy of *The Green Ember* to read.

Course Outline:

Week One: *Starting Place*

- Meeting S.D. Smith
- Read Chapter 1-5
- Discussing Identity: Family Roots
- How Fear Can Define Us

Week Two: *First Impressions*

- Read Chapters 6-11
- First Impressions: Heather, Picket, & Smalls

- Character Compare: Picket vs. Smalls

Week Three: *The Story Isn't Over*

- Read Chapters 12-17
- Character Compare II: Picket vs. Smalls
- Danger, Evil, and Anger
- Folly, Pride, & Apologies

Week Four: *The Truth*

- Read Chapters 18-22
- Learning More: Heather & Picket
- Seeking the Truth

Week Five: *Where We Belong*

- Read Chapters 23-28
- Perspective through a Metaphor
- Heralds of the Mended Wood – Connection & Theme

Week Six: *The Green Ember*

- Read Chapters 29-34
- Forget or Face?
- Perspective in Purpose

Week Seven: *A Song of Hope*

- Read Chapters 35-39
- Conspire Against Gloom – Finding Hope in the Face of Evil
- Too Much Focus on 'Our Place' – What Can Destroy our Purpose
- We Must Make Choices

Week Eight: *The End*

- Read Chapters 40-44
- The Changes of Picket & Heather
- Final Responses

Grading Information: All assignments will be graded using *The Growing Writer* grading rubric and averaged to receive a final course grade.

All class material copyright Cati Grape 2021. Permission for use only by instructors of The Lantern English Co.