***English II Honors***

***The Old Man and the Sea* – Hemingway Parody Assignment**

After having read “A Clean Well-Lighted Place” and now beginning our reading of *The Old Man and the Sea*, you should be intimately aware of the style of Ernest Hemingway. Your assignment is to demonstrate your understanding of this style and apply it to an originally created parody. A parody, as previously discussed, is a literary work in which the style of an author or work is closely imitated and exaggerated for comic effect or ridicule.

In order to poke fun at something, you must know the work well; a parody captures and magnifies the key elements of a story or style. Your parody must show evidence of your understanding and appreciation of Hemingway’s themes as well as key elements of his craft. Your parody, of course, can be funny, but it should critically examine Hemingway’s style through another story and make it absurd. See below for an example of *The Lord of the Rings* if it were to be written by Ernest Hemingway…

*Frodo Baggins looked at the ring. The ring was round. It was a good ring. The hole at the heart of the ring was also round. The hole was clean and pure. The hole at the heart of the ring had an emptiness in it that made Frodo Baggins remember the big skies of the Shire when his father had taken him out and taught him to tear the heads off the small, furred things that walked there, even though he hated blood in those days and the stink of the blood was always part of the emptiness for him then and ever after.

Frodo Baggins could put the ring on his finger now. The stink of the blood and the hole and the emptiness could never leave him now. Frodo Baggins looked at the ash-heap slopes of Mordor and remembered the Cuban orc who had kept the ash on his cigar all the way to the end. The orc just drew on the cigar and smoked the cigar calmly and kept the ash in a long gray finger, a hard finger, right to the moment that the Rangers beat hit to death with clubs. He was mucho orco, the Cuban.

Frodo Baggins looked at the ring and the hole and smelled the sulfur smell that came from the vent in the mountain. There were scorched black bushes round the vent. Frodo Baggins reached in his pouch and took out the flask of good grappa there and filled his mouth and swallowed the grappa.

Frodo Baggins could spit again so he spat hard, once.

He took the ring and threw it into the vent.

The earth moved.*

* For a maximum of five (5) points of extra credit, choose a story to parody. This can be a novel we have studied, a movie you have recently seen, or another story you wish to re-tell.
* Be sure to re-tell the story in a much leaner sense…see above for an example.
* Be sure to mimic the style of Hemingway in an overt manner.
* Do not write more than one (1) typed, double-spaced page.
* Have some fun and be funny!
* If you choose to participate, this assignment is due on Friday, December 9, 2016.