August 1, 2019

Dear Student,

I wanted to take a moment and write you a letter to tell you a little about myself. My name is Ms. Sellman, and I will be your English teacher this year.

A little about me: I was born in New Jersey, but we moved down here when I was 2. I still consider myself a “Northerner” and I will tell you that I was raised in the South, but not raised Southern. While I love my chicken parmiganas and hard rolls, I am a college football fan – especially the SEC (Go Dawgs!) – and love a good biscuit. Still working on grits.

I’m an only child. I got married last year to a wonderful man I met at a Dinner Club. His name is Doug. Between us, we have three cats (Gatsby, Lewis, and Lana). We love going to see concerts and music in general. We live in Marietta.

I mentioned I love music: I am an 80s girl and a classic rock fan, but I always love hearing new music. I would love it if you share your new music loves with me. This summer I went to see Electric Light Orchestra – a bucket list item, since I’ve loved them from when I was a little girl. If you saw Guardians of the Galaxy 2, ELO’s “Mr. Blue Sky” is the song Groot is dancing to at the beginning of the movie.

I’m also a movie buff: Star Wars, Avengers, and Guardians of the Galaxy are some recent favorites, but I also love my 80s movies: Top Gun, Indiana Jones, Aliens. In fact, I am currently watching Stranger Things (late starter- just finished Season 2) and I LOVE all the 80s references.

Above all, I love to read. I don’t always have time for it, but I’ve been working on getting back into reading. If you’re looking for something to read, I can usually give you a good recommendation. I’m reading a book right now called The House of the Broken Angels, about a Mexican family who lose their grandmother and then the father of the family. It’s hilarious and sad at the same time. I’m also learning a lot of new Spanish words (not all of them I can say at school 😊 )

As your teacher, I want to push you to do the best you can this year. American Literature can be an interesting class because we all have different ideas about what America is and can be. I want to hear your ideas and opinions about the texts we read because we will al experience them differently. We have an EOC at the end of the semester, so I am interested in helping you do well and be successful.

I’m going to ask you to write a letter back to me with information about yourself. What are some things you like? Don’t like? How do you feel about English classes? The more I know about you, the more I can work with you to make class the best experience possible. I’m working on making class more interactive this year, so if you have ideas that you really liked in another class, please share them with me. Only I will read it, so feel free to share what you wish.

Above all – you are my student this year, and I CARE ABOUT YOU. Please come and talk to me if you have something (good or bad) on your mind. Whatever I can do to help you out, I will.

I am looking forward to our semester together!!!

Sincerely,