

## 7th Grade Summer Read

*Tales from Shakespeare* by Charles and Mary Lamb      978-0-141-32168-4

1. Please read all of the stories in the book this summer. We will discuss them during the first few weeks of school, and your first essay will be about a few of them.

As you read, please annotate for the following:

- Basic plot and characters - what are the significant things that happen? Who are the main characters, and what kind of people are they? (Note: you're looking for character traits, not physical descriptions.)
- Power - who has it, and what do they do with it? What happens to those who have it?
- Disguises and mistaken identity - specifically note when someone is taken to be someone else, whether intentionally or accidentally. What happens as a result?
- Love - What is the root of love? What does it motivate people to do?

Additionally, please write 1-3 points of summary at the end of each story.

When you mark your book, don't highlight whole paragraphs. Think in terms of boxing, circling, highlighting/underlining key words or phrases and writing short notes in the margin. (see additional handout about marking your book)

2. You will need to come to school with the following assignment completed. The assignment may be typed or handwritten and should be 8-15 sentences long.

In drama, comedies are plays that have a happy ending; tragedies are those that do not have a happy ending. Select one play and explore what the story might be like if it were the other type. If you select a comedy, talk about what would need to happen for the story to be considered a tragedy instead. How do these changes alter the message of the story?