

Pust – Optional Learning Opportunity *Clybourne Park* 12AP Literature

DIRECTIONS: Attend one of the performances of *Clybourne Park*. Then, choose ONE of the prompts below and write a well-developed essay in response to the prompt (approximately 4 paragraphs). Support your ideas with specific, detailed references to the play. This is due, typed and in MLA format, to Turnitin.com by November 20th. If you cannot attend, you will be excused from the assignment, but this is a great opportunity to earn some points in the Writing category!

1. In *The Land of Stories*, Chris Colfer writes, “But what the world fails to realize is a villain is just a victim whose story hasn’t been told.” How might this quotation relate to the characters in *Clybourne Park*? In what ways is the playwright, Bruce Norris, not sympathetic to the “villains”?
2. The humor and satire in *Clybourne Park* is quite abrasive and uncomfortable compared to the satirical dramas we’ve read from earlier time periods. What accounts for this? Is it the change in time periods? The seriousness of the issues? The needs of modern audiences?
3. “RUTH: I can’t stay home. She’d be calling up the agency and screaming at them, ‘My girl didn’t come in to day---send me somebody! My girl didn’t come in!’ Oh, she just have a fit...” (42).
Analyze the relationship between Bev and Francine in *Clybourne Park*.

You must include a citation for the performance at the end of your response:

Give the title of the play, the author, pertinent information about the director and performers, the theater, the location, and the date of performance. If you are citing an individual's role in the work, begin your citation with the person's name.

Example Lapine, James, dir. The Diary of Anne Frank. By

Wendy Kesselman. Perf. Natalie Portman. Music

Box Theater. 5 Dec. 1997.

Portman, Natalie, perf. The Diary of Anne Frank. By

Wendy Kesselman. Dir. James Lapine. Music Box

Theater. 5 Dec. 1997

The Diary of Anne Frank. By Wendy Kesselman. Dir.

James Lapine. Perf. Natalie Portman. Music Box

Theater. 5 Dec. 1997.

Theater: Santa Monica High School Humanities Center.

Director: Kate Barraza

Performers: see cast list on back

Title: *Clybourne Park*

Author: Bruce Norris