

Name: _____

Ten Days in a Mad-House: Summer Reading for Honors American Literature (HAmLit) Summer 2023

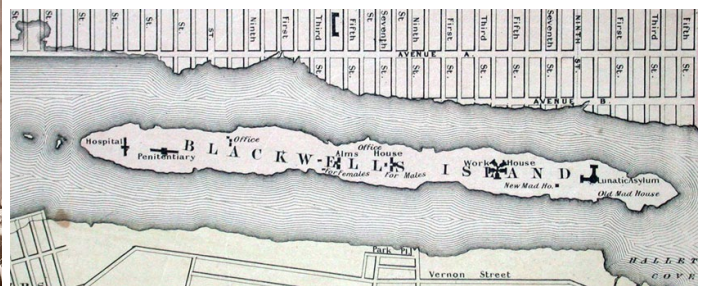
https://www.sas.upenn.edu/~cavitch/pdf-library/Bly_TenDays.pdf

Nellie Bly was 23 years old in 1887 when she entered an insane asylum in New York City to conduct investigative journalism. The Introduction to this work tells that because of her reporting, New York City added \$1,000,000 more that year to care for those that were outside of society's definition of sane. Adjusted to the value of currency today from the year 1887 of her work, that total comes to \$30,448,484.85. That is a pretty amazing outcome!

Your work for this summer is to read her account. You will stop after each chapter and summarize what you have read. This is individual work; you will not copy another's summaries. You know what the penalty is for plagiarism at Pope High School, and it is not pretty...not something you want on your record.

Also, your summaries need to be complete and detailed. Your summary for Chapter 1 will not be this: "This woman goes undercover in an insane asylum." I have summarized the first chapter for you below. Read that chapter; read my summary; continue with your reading and summarize each chapter in your own words. Use literary present! Each summary must be at least three sentences. Edit your writing. Use different sentence types as well. Copy this document to your computer and just continue typing. Keep the same fonts and font sizes as presented here.

BTW: This is the asylum she was put in, and here is a photo of her. She went on to a fascinating career!



Chapter I: Nellie Bly, journalist in Sept 1887 for *New York World* under the assumed name of Nellie Brown, acts like an indigent crazy girl to get the police to throw her into the Blackwell Island Insane Asylum. After getting in, she makes no effort to keep up her charade. No one questions her insanity once she is in except for one doctor. She mentions that she witnessed some women there she does not consider insane.

Chapter II:

(Continue adding chapter summaries all the way thru Chapter XVII. Google Roman Numerals if you don't know how they work/how to read them.)

When you finish this reading, think of something you would like to go undercover to expose (give me at least 3 sentences here as well):