# BOOK: If You Can Keep It: The Forgotten Promise of American Liberty by Eric Metaxas

(nonfiction, NEW/CLEAN COPY in PRINT only – **ISBN-13**: 978-1101979990)

## Assignment Part 1:

You need to read the book **in its entirety**, paying close attention to repeated ideas and concepts regarding the foundation of America as a society, the "Golden Triangle", and the various arguments Metaxas puts forward to explain the need for virtue, freedom, and faith. It would behoove you to also make note of *how* Metaxas presents arguments (see the cheat sheet under "Helpful Documents")

It would also benefit you to **text mark** when reading. You will **not** be graded on your text marking; however, it will help you better understand what you are reading (as you interact with the text) and can be beneficial to refer back to for any assessments you will have on the material upon the commencement of the school year.

## How to Text-mark:

- 1) Find meaningful text and highlight or underline it. Pick moments that resonate with you!
- 2) Label the highlighted text with reader response (text- to-self, text-to-text, text-to-world), personal thoughts or reactions, literary devices used, etc. How would you "talk" about the text to analyze it?
- 3) You may want to use different colors based for text marking (ex. Green = reader response, yellow= personal reflections, orange= rhetorical or literary devices)

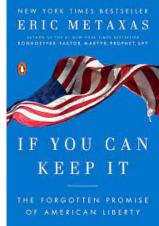
## <u>Assignment Part 2:</u>

You will need to complete **NINE (9) full page** journal entries for each chapter in book. This includes the introduction and conclusion. These journal entries need to be **(1) ONE typed page** on **Microsoft Word**. The entry will include a header, title page, and in text citation according to MLA formatting (Times New Roman, Double Spaced). Each entry should include a Works Cited at the bottom.

## Prompts if you are stuck on what to write about in your journal entry:

Copy a <b>short</b> (4-6 sentence) passage that you found interesting. Explain what made it interesting for you.	Write a summary of what you read in the chapter for the first half of your journal entry. Respond with a reflection on what you read for the second half of the journal entry	What confused you about what you read? As you read further did your confusion dissipate? Why or why not?	Explain some of the things that you learned in the chapter that you are not likely to forget in the near future.	What does this text NOT tell you? What does it assume? What does it fail to assume?
What was the author's purpose or argument of this chapter? How do you know? Use points of argument to support your analysis.	What are the most relevant supporting details in the chapter? How do you know?	How is the chapter you read today structured? Why do you think the author chose to do it that way?	Was the author's argument in this chapter believable? Does he write with any bias? Explain.	What connections did you make while reading this chapter?
What information in the chapter was familiar to you? How was the way it was presented change or build on your understanding of the facts?	What are the two most important things you will remember from this chapter? Why?	What is something you would like to share with someone else from this chapter? Why?	What more do you want to know about the topic? Why?	Why would it be important for people to read this chapter? What can society learn from it?

You may decide to respond to the text with your thoughts or reactions to the text, but you may also choose any of the following prompts to complete your journal. Be sure to use specific details from the text to support your answer, properly citing the source in your journal.



# ENGLISH 11/ 11 Honors SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

## **Collection and Assessment**

- Journal entries must be a full page typed (including header, title, and in-text citation) in WORD, PRINTED, and brought to school the FIRST DAY. You will also submit these to Canvas when you are assigned your class to check for plagiarism through TurnItIn. Please read everything carefully, and don't hesitate to reach out to me if you have questions.
- There is a 10% per day penalty for late work with a max of 5 days.
- Upon returning from break, you will also compose a timed writing based upon the book. Students may use their marked book for the writing response.

## **Important Note about Plagiarism**

All work submitted should be your own. This is an independent assignment, and it is NOT something you are permitted to collaborate on with friends. Any student who submits any type of work or a key interpretive idea that is not his/her own is guilty of plagiarism and will receive a zero for the work, and your parents will be notified. Be honest in your work and have the confidence to value your own thoughts and opinions.

## Helpful Documents

## Journal Entry Exemplar

**<u>Rhetorical Analysis Cheat Sheet</u>** – Refer to the terms and argument analysis to help construct your journal entries.

## **Questions?**

Email Mrs. Albano at lalbano@ccslancers.com.