LITTLE WOMEN

Summer 2020

**Third Class: July 23**

**Theme: “Money, Power, Autonomy, Imagination, Aesthetic”**

**Agenda:**

* 1. Assignment for next week: (“Reaching their Potential While Accepting Limitations”)
	2. Brief Presentations: a) Language; b) Film vs Text; c) script/direction
	3. Break-Out Group Discussions: characters in film & book
	4. Break-Out Group Discussions: issues in film & book
	5. General Discussion: Greta Gerwig’s intentions
	6. General Discussion: Contributions film makes to development and advancement of Alcott’s Ideas
	7. Discussion: Overall critique of film / impact
	8. Film Buffs’ Special Forum: Share what you prefer in earlier versions of Little Women.
1. **Assignment for July 30: “Reaching their Potential, Accepting their Limitations.”**

Read: Part II, Chapters 22-33, pp 233-35.

1. **Presentations: Language:** Dialogue & Side Conversations, Figurative Language

**The Power of Book vs Power of Film: Filters**

**Observations on Script / Direction**

1. **Discussions: Film and Book: Characters**
	1. **Group One:** Marmee and Father and Laurie and Hannah
	2. **Group Two:** Meg and Amy and Aunt March
	3. **Group Three:** Jo, and Beth, and Mr. Laurence
		* Prior questions: What’s your “take” on characters?
		* What do you want to be sure everyone in seminar understands about them?
		* What questions do you have about them?
		* ADD: In what ways does the film match/vary from your earlier “takes”?
2. **Discussion: Film and Book: Issues**
	1. **Groups One, Two and Three:**
		* How does the film address the dilemmas they face and the choices they have?
		* How does the film address their growing individuation?
		* Are there ways in which the film introduces choices you had not noticed/cared about?
3. **Discussion: MODERNITY: Gerwig wanted the film to be “modern.”**
	1. In what ways does the film proceed in ways that are different from earlier versions?
	2. In what ways does the film adapt the book to the present moment?
4. **Discussion: Overall Critique**
	1. What did you admire?
	2. What did you wish were different?
	3. What scene would you have added: (e.g. My favorite scenes) Jo and Laurie and Mr. L. re getting along together after Laurie’s mischief (sending bogus “love letter” from Mr. Brook). Too long for the film, but it tells a lot about Laurie and Jo and Mr. L.—and men and women and pride. (pp. 206-12)