ENG 2150-HD52: Introduction to Women Writers
Prof. Rosen
Spring 2014
Project #2: Covering and recovering *The Bell Jar*

Sylvia Plath's *The Bell Jar* has been published with various covers since its initial publication in 1963. For this project, we are going to examine various covers for the novel, from various times and countries, in various languages, and consider their relationship to the novel.

Part 1: Choose two different covers for the novel (be sure to look beyond the first two!). Identify their publication dates, the press it was published with, the artist, and anything else that identifies the image, to the extent that the information is available. Identify which aspects of the novel (passages, scenes, characters, themes, etc) the cover relates to, and analyze how it does or does not depict that moment. Write a comparison of the ways in which the two covers represent *The Bell Jar*, making specific references to the text by integrating quotations. Post your 1500-1800-word essay and the book covers on our OpenLab site using the category Project #2.

Part 2: Choosing a moment, passage, or scene you think is emblematic of *The Bell Jar*, create your own cover for the novel, using any media you find appropriate (ALTERNATE OPTION: Choose an image that you would place on the cover instead of designing the entire cover). Write a reflection on the choices you made in designing the cover (or choosing the image), and the passages, scenes, characters, themes, etc, your cover (or image) represents (300-600 words).

Part 1 Draft due 4/24

Part 1 and Part 2 due 5/1*
*If you meet with me to discuss your draft prior to 5/1, the deadline will be extended.

Learning Goals: In writing this essay, you will learn to

- analyze literature written by women through thematic consideration;
- consider visual images in conjunction with written texts
- write a clear argument based on detail-oriented textual evidence;
- quote from and respond to our assigned readings;
- cite quotations parenthetically according to MLA format;
- develop your ability to write with clear, grammatically correct prose.

Writing and Formatting: Your project should

- be submitted electronically
- include in Part 1 an introduction that names the author and text, and that ends with your thesis statement;
- refer specifically to the text, using quotations and paraphrasing appropriately;
- use MLA citations and a Works Cited page to give credit to the sources you use, whether from our course readings or elsewhere—keep in mind that outside research is neither required nor recommended;
- conform to the grammar, punctuation, and usage conventions of American English;
- make reasonable use of your computer's spelling- and grammar-checking programs;
- uphold City Tech's academic integrity policies to avoid earning a zero for the assignment

Projects will be graded based on your ability to express your understanding of the text and related images, to choose and integrate relevant examples, to organize your ideas into cohesive arguments, and to follow the instructions outlined here.

Finally, please feel free to meet with me during office hours or make an appointment to meet with me to discuss your essay at any stage of your writing process.