Welcome to M30!

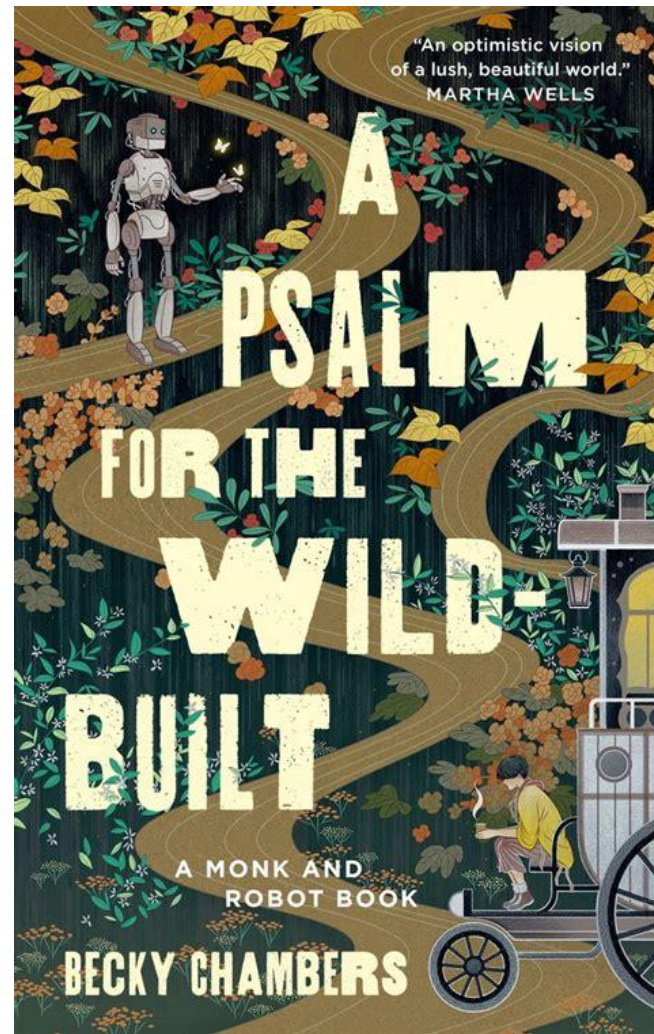**Week 1 Agenda**

1. Introductions
2. Section Policy Sheet
3. Close Reading
4. Group Activity
   a. Finding our terms in story

Book Rec of the Week

A Psalm for the Wild-Built, by Becky Chambers

An optimistic post-climate change sci-fi story with forest robots and travelling tea monks. Read this for some rest.

"An optimistic vision of a lush, beautiful world."
MARTHA WELLS

A PSALM for the WILD-BUILT

A MONK AND ROBOT BOOK

BECKY CHAMBERS

Who Am I?

- **Name:** Kat
- **Pronouns:** She/Her/Hers
- **An animal I resonate with, admire, or wish I could be and why:** The maned wolf, because it's very beautiful and graceful at first look but the more you keep looking and thinking about it, the more you realize how really strange and fae-like this not-dog thing is. Does it induce awe or, when in-shadowed, fear? This is what I want for myself.

Your turn!

Section Policy Sheet Highlights

Section Goals

This section is meant to help you discuss course texts and ideas in a setting that is both comfortable and challenging. It is a safe, community-oriented space in which you will be encouraged to ask questions about things that confuse or interest you, share and hear new thoughts, and develop your hunches into arguments. It is also meant to help shape, more specifically, your writing, reading, and analytical skills. Each week we will spend our time returning to the week's readings and lectures through conversation, writing activities, and peer review. Our space of mutual respect and openness and the work we do together in it is meant to help you not only complete the coursework, but more importantly, become a better writer, reader, and thinker.

Section Policy Sheet Highlights

Avoiding Bias

This class is a place where everyone is free to learn, to express doubt, and to assert convictions. However, with freedom of speech comes responsibility and accountability for that speech. To that end, you are asked to pay attention to both the *effect* and *intentions* of your words, and to avoid deliberately using language that is demeaning to others. When listening to other students, remember that we are all learning and growing; we all can improve. Any papers using sexist, racist, heterosexist, ableist, ageist, or otherwise inappropriate or biased language will be returned without a grade to be revised and resubmitted. It is also essential that you begin to *role model* (which does not include always *calling out* others) the use of inclusive language for the benefit of your peers.

Section Policy Sheet Highlights

- OH - Monday @ 1pm, Thursday @ 11am, Life Sciences Building rm 4364
- Attendance will NOT be taken
- Extensions - Just ask, ideally 24 hours before any deadline, please plan ahead
- Offline email hours: 7pm M-Th, and 5pm Fri to Monday morning (urgent emails should have "URGENT" in their topic line, or "Extension request", etc.)

Participation (15%)

3 different opportunities to participate each week

1) Speak in class (ask a question, answer a question, comments, etc.)
2) In-class activities (some online, some not)
3) Post-class reflection on google-doc (always online)

I will be keeping track of participation each week. There is no exact number you need to reach, just try to participate in at least one way each section.

Close Reading - What is it and how to apply it to this class

A deep *analysis* of a literary text

What are the text's components (word-choice, analogies, imagery, etc.)

Why do we think the author put them together like that? For what end?

"In X's novel *Mars is the Only Way*, the author's **diction** <u>contributes to a strong</u> **theme** of post-earth optimism and techno-salvation by being consistently and overwhelmingly positive when describing the novel's prominent martian technology, in contrast to the scarce and overall negative word-choices surrounding the characters' memories of Earth.

Review and Activity

1) The Holocene & the "Anthropocene"
   a) What are they? Are they the same, different? Why?
2) When did the Anthropocene begin?
   a) Industrial Revolution
   b) Columbian Exchange
   c) Dawn of Agriculture
   d) Dawn of Humankind