**ENG255**
**Week #7**

**READING**
Please read, re-read and annotate, and be prepared for class participation and discussion:

- John Steinbeck “The Chrysanthemums” *handout* (Monday)
  - Group Presentation: Cory Graham, Karen Beaty, and Sarah Barnes

- *Literature Since Midcentury, 1945-Present* (pages 2261-2269) and Flannery O’Connor, *A Good Man is Hard to Find* (Pages 2432-2443) Wednesday and Friday

**WRITING**
**Due Monday, May 17**
Please write your weekly writing in response to the following (or compose your own focused question to respond to):

- Steinbeck: Consider Steinbeck’s use of setting and character and write about the isolation of Elisa Allen. If you’d like, compare this character (published in 1938) with previous American Lit’s female characters we’ve met in stories written during the early 20th Century (Delia in *Sweat*: published in 1926; Mrs. Wright/Minnie Foster in *Trifles* published in 1916).

- O’Connor: Explain the Misfit’s final evaluation of the grandmother: “She would have been a good woman . . . if it had been somebody there to shoot her every minute of her life.”

**Extra Credit Opportunities**

Enjoy a few local literary opportunities. For extra credit please write a short (one paragraph summary) of the writer/presentation. There will be more extra credit opportunities to follow in May.

- Wednesday, May 12 @ 7:00 p.m., University of Oregon: Columbia Hall Room 150: **Sherman Alexie**
- Thursday, May 20 @ 9:30-10:50, LBCC: LRC 210: Chris Anderson, Professor of English at Oregon State University, poet, fiction writer, essayist.