*We will send in our typed stories by midnight Wed;  
Carmen will xerox those, homework and lesson plan.  
Y’all will leave earlier: 11:45 on Friday morning; Hayley has tape,  
you’ll pick up all books, poster paper, markers from English House****initial set up: try tables in the center, poster sheets on walls?***

**Lesson Plan 2-28-14  
I. Silvi:** **post up your table of contents** (or write one up on the wall now)  
go around and comment on what you see in others, cf’ing to your own—what’s similar, what strikingly different?  
**Large group discussion:** What do you notice? What stands out?  
How do the large pattern/the big arcs of our life stories   
resemble and differ from one another?   
What overarching themes emerge, re: gender/intersectionality?  
  
**II. Sasha: Who wants to read a chapter of her life story?**Encourage some discussion: again, how like/different:

What are the commonalities/what is distinct?  
**Collect these;** **hand back last week’s typed stories;**   
ask for revisions from the earlier ones. Explain our hope  
to start offering some one-on-one tutoring next week…  
  
**III. Anne introducing our next book:** *The Twelve Tribes of Hattie* \*\*  
read opening section aloud, sentence by sentence  
do a close reading together  
read it aloud again (chorally?): what do we notice now?  
  
**IV. Carmen on brainstorming/writing exercise:**since this is a historical novel, we’re going to do some historical writing!  
make a list of three people who came before you,   
whose lives affected your own (give some of our own examples here)   
get in small groups, to tell each other why you might write about each one;  
get their feedback to help you decide…  
*Come back to full group, invite folks share  
their ideas (coupla sentences) about who they might write about   
We’re searching for ways to get people into their writing,  
 though they wouldn’t actually BE writing*  
  
**V. Hayley: hand out homework instructions:  
3 pp. story** about somebody who came before you…  
could be family member, or result of research:  
where they came from (any Great Migration stories?)  
how they came to be/ who they are now  
(if you already wrote about your mother, don’t do her again)

**----  
\*\*Here’s how Oprah described the novel,  
 when she picked it for her book club:**  
“The novel tells the story of Hattie Shepherd,   
who leaves Georgia for Philadelphia in 1923.   
Her 11 children and one grandchild are Hattie's ‘12 tribes’—  
whom we meet sequentially in 12 distinct narrative threads….  
  
The book is set against the backdrop of the Great Migration,   
[1915-1975, when] six million black folk migrated north to escape   
the terrible hardships of the Jim Crow American South.   
  
But there are echoes of Ayana Mathis's own life, too.   
Her grandparents, with whom she lived from time to time   
as a young girl while her mother struggled with mental illness,   
were among those who took part in this exodus   
to what they hoped would be a kind of promised land.   
  
When Ayana was 10, a rift developed between her mother   
and the rest of the extended family.   
From that time on, the two were on their own.   
As her mother's depression deepened, she spiraled downward;   
mother and daughter moved from place to place,   
rarely staying anywhere for long.   
When Ayana finally left to attend college in New York City,   
she began to suffer from depression herself.  
 Though all of that is behind her now, and her mother is in good health,   
you can feel a young girl's sense of isolation   
inhabiting all of the book's characters.”