Slaughterhouse-Five CD Project

As your final project for *Slaughterhouse-Five,* you will make a compilation album (a CD with 6–8 tracks) that reflects your **analysis of**, **understanding of**, and **reaction to** the ideas in *Slaughterhouse-Five*. You should consider each track as a "brief, urgent message" about the work. Taken as a whole, the CD should communicate "an image of life [or the book] that is beautiful and surprising and deep."

The album should have unity and flow (the songs should make sense together and the progression of songs should create drama). Challenge yourself to think beyond plot based connections between the music and the novel to connections related to theme, mood, and tone.

Additionally, you will design a cover for your album and write liner notes that articulate the significance of each song. You have freedom in choosing the format of your liner notes; you may write your liner notes as one complete essay that communicates your overall vision for the album, or you may address each track on the album with a separate paragraph.

This assignment asks you to experiment with style and voice in writing your liner notes; they should not be written as a formal essay, nor should they be a simple report of the connections you see between the book and the music. Read over the examples of liner notes we have discussed and seek out other examples (if you have access to vinyl records, you should be able to find liner notes there) to familiarize yourself with the genre. You may use poetry, imagistic language, an informal tone, and other writing techniques that you don't get to use when writing a formal essay.

However, what you write will need to clearly communicate the connection you perceive between the music you have selected and *Slaughterhouse-Five* and freedom from formal constraints is not an excuse to do sloppy work—words should still be carefully chosen, spelled correctly, punctuated appropriately, and so on. For your final product, you will submit to me a CD with a cover, track list, and your liner notes. You may use the online CD/DVD creator (http://www.readwritethink.org/materials/cd-dvd/) to make your CD cover and liner notes or other image editing/layout software. You may also illustrate by hand.

If you include quotations from *Slaughterhouse-Five* in your liner notes, please include page numbers. If you refer to ideas or phrasing from a source other than the book or the songs you are writing about, you will need to correctly attribute those and include a works cited page.

Finally, this project falls within the bounds of fair use copyright law as long as the songs you include on your compilation CD were legally obtained (purchased from an online music store or imported from a CD you purchased). Please respect the fair use guidelines we discussed in class as you prepare this project.