**S. B. Darrell** English 251 and 474

**Basic Plot Outline for Milton’s *Paradise Lost***

Book Scene Events

I Hell Epic opening

Satan, Beelzebub—call to troops

II Hell Building of Pandemonium

Council of Hell: Satan, Beelzebub, Moloch, Mammon,

Belial; decision about next rebellion

Satan’s journey; meeting with Sin and Death; Chaos

III Heaven Council of Heaven

Eternal Father, Son, discussion of free will; Son’s offer

Earth Satan’s arrival from Hell

IV Paradise Satan in Eden, his troubled conscience, his resolve

Adam and Eve in bliss

Guard of angels warned by Uriel

Eve’s dream

Confrontation between Satan and Gabriel

V Paradise Adam and Eve together, visit from Raphael

Raphael’s description of war in Heaven and fall of

Satan

VI Paradise Raphael’s further narrative of war and Satan’s fall

VII Paradise Raphael’s story of Creation and history of the world

VIII Paradise Raphael’s narrative about creation of Adam and Eve

His reminder about forbidden tree (Tree of Knowledge

of Good and Evil)

His departure; Adam and Eve alone

IX Paradise Satan in disguise as serpent in Tree

Satan’s admiration of Eve; his temptation of her

Eve’s sin

Revolt of Nature

Adam’s sin

Shame, guilt, mutual recriminations

Book Scene Events

X Heaven Son’s departure for Earth to judge Adam and Eve

Paradise Sin and Death’s arrival on Earth

Hell Satan’s departure from Paradise (now called merely

Earth) for Hell, delighted with his success

Heaven Chorus’s song of praise for Eternal Father’s order,

judgment, mercy

Earth Adam’s lamentation; reconciliation of Adam and Eve

Adam and Eve’s resolve to confess and repent

XI Earth Adam and Eve’s prayers

Heaven Son’s intercession for Adam and Eve so they can

hear Eternal Father respond to their prayers

Earth Eternal Father’s judgment for Adam and Eve to hear

and feel unworthy of though heartened

Michael’s talk with Adam and Eve about their future

XII Earth Adam with Michael to learn further history of the

world

Savior in Son revealed

Adam and Eve’s departure from the garden to seek a

new home