**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