"Mrs. Gaskell" has been described as the social conscience of Britain during the period when the Industrial Revolution began to change forever the old order of society. We will read Gaskell's *North and South*, a novel which examines the themes of duty, class, and gender in a changing society. Each week we will discuss an assigned portion of this wonderful book. In addition, voluntary research topics will be suggested so the class can better understand the backgrounds, history, families, and other influences that were in place during, and just before *North and South* was written (1840s/1850s).

The Penguin edition of *North and South* is not required but is recommended. We will be using this version in class, and it is far easier if we are all, literally, on the same page.

**The Book:** *North and South*, Elizabeth Gaskell, ISBN: 978-0-140-43424-8

**NOTE:** Don't read the forward or watch any of the videos prior to our class if you prefer not to know the entire store


2/12 *North and South*: Chapters XXIII-XXXI (183-255). Facilitator Comments: *North and South in Household Words, The Victorian Reader*. Discussion: Research Report:

