

**Honors English 1**  
**Norwalk Early College Academy**  
**Summer Reading Assignment**

To ensure a successful program, it is necessary that the freshman honors students have some course-related reading and writing assignment this summer. The following selections will complement the Freshman Honors curriculum.

**Required Reading - Carefully read 3 of the following selections:**

1. *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho
2. *My Sister's Keeper* by Jodi Picoult
3. *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett
4. *Room* by Emma Donoghue
5. *Looking for Alaska* by John Green
6. *David and Goliath* by Malcolm Gladwell
7. *The Other Wes Moore* by Wes Moore

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**Required:**

- This assignment must be ready for the first day of school. This will be the first grade of the quarter.
- Each response should be typed, 1.5 spaced, 12 point font, Times New Roman or Arial, and no longer than one page.

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**Assignment: Complete for each book.**

- For each text, identify **the most important** topic on which the novel clearly comments. Please dedicate one page per topic.
- Next, ask yourself, "what is the author's message about the topic?" Write down the answer to this question in one sentence and explain your thinking. This is your *theme statement!*
- Select **two or more** quotes that support your theme statement. Explain in detail how each quote support the author's message. Include the page number in parenthesis for each quote.

**Challenge:** Read an additional book (not on the list) and complete the same assignment above.

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Thank you, and if you have any questions, please email your 9th grade honors teacher:

- Ms. Victoria [victoriaj@norwalkps.org](mailto:victoriaj@norwalkps.org)

