**Autobiography ORB, Open Response Paragraph #1 – Due Friday, September 25**

“Like a plant that starts up in showers and sunshine and does not know which has best helped it to grow, it is difficult to say whether the hard things or the pleasant things did me more good.” - Lucy Larcom

From your current point in your book, do you think that the “pleasant things” or the “hard things” have had stronger influences on the central character? Write a paragraph in which you identify a force that has influenced your character. Describe the force and its influence on the character. Is it a positive or a negative force? An internal or an external force? How has this force affected the life path of this character?

Use strong opening and closing sentences and include vivid and specific details from the book. You do not need to use direct quotations, but – if you do – be sure to incorporate them into longer sentences.

Examples of forces: poverty, wealth, talent, illness, isolation, tragedy, violence, war, positive or negative role models.

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