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LENS #6

YALIT

Dr. Sherry

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*Reader Response*

*The Orange Houses* is a great text for young adult readers to relate to. The characters in this novel portray the power of friendship and the obstacles friendship can help overcome. The text changes from point of views between the three main characters, which gives young readers an outlook which they can learn from. These characters also show the struggles in which many young adults may face while living in a low socioeconomic area. This is a struggle that the youth of today’s society will be facing for years to come.

Coming from a town in a low socioeconomic area I can see the characters in this book and see the struggles that they face. Although I didn’t grow up as bad as other kids in my town, I had many friends who dealt with similar issues every day. Tamika’s character touches close to home when I think about the obstacles and skills that she overcomes every day. In my hometown I know a young teenage girl who also deals with her own disabilities. This girl uses music to deal with her struggles, similar to the way Tamika uses her drawings. I think that it’s a great inspiration for young adults to learn from. The text and character sends a message that it is possible to find an escape from reality through one’s own talent. The character also shows young adults that somewhere else, other individuals may have a much harder time. Similar to events in my hometown, these characters find a way to break open their community and change the lives of those living in *The Orange Houses*.

Overall *The Orange Houses* can be viewed as a text unsuitable for young adults or a great viewpoint to learn from. I see this novel as the second of the two. I think many young adults can learn and grow from reading this novel. It represents many struggles in today’s society which the future generations will always be faced with. Griffin created an amazing text that will touch close to home for many young adults.