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ENGL 7711

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Literary Tweets

I was quite reluctant to enter into the “Twitter World!” A whole culture filled with Re-tweets, Trending Topics, Hash-tags; you name it. People who are new to the Twitter game find it somewhat difficult to catch on to. Who do I follow? Do I allow my profile to be made public? Who do I allow to follow me? What exactly deserves a hash-tag? The old pro’s make you somewhat nervous to delve into the culture, mainly because you do not want to look foolish! One of the most difficult things to consider when tweeting is what subjects are truly “tweet-worthy?” People tweet about EVERYTHING! How they woke up, pictures of food-plates they have consumed, also known as #foodporn. Pictures of themselves (#selfies); as well as every other prized possessions, or events that will have them seeming as though they are a little better off than they actually are! I found it difficult finding what literary aspects were “tweet-worthy,” as well. There are so many things to consider within novels that we have read, it is hard to break it down into 140 characters. So I tried my best to find different ways to include what we have learned in #ENGL7711 into the wide world of tweets!

I felt as though my tweets carried more weight when I had some sort of article to attach to the tweet. I did not only want to give my own personal opinions on the literature, but provide some background knowledge so that people who read them were able to read further into the topic I was discussing. I also wanted to tweet about something with substance. A topic that could benefit society, or present issues that need to not only be realized but discussed as well. The more I searched for articles to include within my tweets, the more I was learning as well. This helped me to become aware of issues that I may not have known about otherwise.

Another thing I found interesting was that because this was a “school,” assignment I truly took my time and was extremely careful about my tweeting. I think that Twitter would be more beneficial if other people took the time to tweet wisely and especially proofread their tweets. Twitter is becoming the wave for many celebrities. I must say that it truly pains me to see a tweet being read on ESPN with grammatical errors. The ESPN anchors, being the kind people they are, usually try to read what was MEANT to be said, as opposed to what the tweets actually do say. This is very admirable; however, it would make this social media network more credible if people took their time while tweeting.

This assignment was a lot more difficult than I had originally imagined that it would be. In the beginning of the semester I was excited to be able to tweet about what was being read in class but I often times found myself struggling to find the right things to say. I also believe that it would have been better for me to follow more of my classmates on twitter so that I could have the opportunity to re-tweet them, or to engage in discussions about the class readings.

**Tweets**

[**Ashley McFarlan** ‏‪@amcfarlan14‬](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14) [3h](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14/status/325000185392541696)   [‪@amcfarlan14](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14) My personal response [‪#ENGL7711](https://twitter.com/search?q=%23ENGL7711&src=hash) [‪pic.twitter.com/WiWhKmhUOL](http://t.co/WiWhKmhUOL)  [View photo](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14/status/325000185392541696)

* This was another picture from Instagram with an old acquaintance who was reading Henrietta Lacks.

[**Ashley McFarlan** ‏‪@amcfarlan14‬](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14) [3h](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14/status/324999738359443457)   An old acquaintance of mine spreading the word about the Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks [‪pic.twitter.com/MedRIDu3gv](http://t.co/MedRIDu3gv)  [View photo](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14/status/324999738359443457)

* This was a post that included a picture from 3 weeks ago on Instagram. An old acquaintance of mine who is currently involved in a lifestyle that may be deemed somewhat illegal posted a picture of herself reading The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks. I felt it was worthy of posting because so many people from many different backgrounds found the book not only interesting, but a book that they could not put down.

[**Ashley McFarlan** ‏‪@amcfarlan14‬](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14) [3h](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14/status/324999265736855552)   You know that you've made a difference when you have the hardest people reading your work! Instagram was the social medium used [‪#ENGL7711](https://twitter.com/search?q=%23ENGL7711&src=hash)  [Expand](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14/status/324999265736855552)

* This was me elaborating on the importance of the book The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks. It was a book that touched so many lives and there was so much people learned from this book.

[**Ashley McFarlan** ‏‪@amcfarlan14‬](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14) [3h](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14/status/324994238666391553)   A little more elaboration on Charles Frazier's Nightwoods: [‪http://www.randomhouse.com/rhpg/rc/2011/09/27/a-letter-from-charles-frazier-about-his-new-novel-nightwoods …](http://t.co/doiKmSbOwv) thought this would help [‪#ENGL7711](https://twitter.com/search?q=%23ENGL7711&src=hash)  [Expand](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14/status/324994238666391553)

* This was a letter written by Charles Frazier about his book Nightwoods. This article also had some questions that could be discussed in the classroom, or for book clubs you may be reading the book for.

[**Ashley McFarlan** ‏‪@amcfarlan14‬](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14) [14 Apr](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14/status/323585048571949057)   These statistics are pretty alarming! [‪http://www.rainn.org/statistics](http://t.co/mQLNT3let9) [‪#ENGL7711](https://twitter.com/search?q=%23ENGL7711&src=hash)  [Expand](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14/status/323585048571949057)

* This tweet included some statistics about rape and their reporting rates. This also included the stats for rapes that go unpunished or that are committed by family members as well. While reading Nightwoods, I realized that there are many people out here who may have been in a situation where they were sexually harmed or even raped and the fact that they felt that no one would believe them, or people would blame them they do not report it.

[**Ashley McFarlan** ‏‪@amcfarlan14‬](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14) [14 Apr](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14/status/323582982390706176)   It would be pretty cool to make some much needed corrections to this page! [‪http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mexican\_WhiteBoy …](http://t.co/3AkwOctDTX) [‪#ENGL7711](https://twitter.com/search?q=%23ENGL7711&src=hash)  [Expand](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14/status/323582982390706176)

* This was the Wikipedia summary for Mexican Whiteboy. The summary was poorly written. There are errors in grammar as well as in the story’s plot. I thought that it would be pretty cool to make revisions to the summary so that it really explained what happened within the text.

[**Ashley McFarlan** ‏‪@amcfarlan14‬](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14) [4 Apr](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14/status/319957942982033408)   Here is the website of Charlene Teters the woman who in 1989 began her quest to have Illiniwek ousted: [‪http://www.charleneteters.com/Welcome.html](http://t.co/KXn1ibcD4G) [‪#ENGL7711](https://twitter.com/search?q=%23ENGL7711&src=hash)  [Expand](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14/status/319957942982033408)

* This tweet included the website of Charlene Teters the woman who began the quest to have the University of Illinois’ Chief Illiniwek dismissed. She felt as though the portrayal of the Indian chief was a poor representation and it should not be allowed during athletic events.

[**Ashley McFarlan** ‏‪@amcfarlan14‬](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14) [4 Apr](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14/status/319957639037612033)   This is an article about University of Illinois' mascot Chief Illiniwek's last dance: [‪http://sports.espn.go.com/ncaa/news/story?id=2774670 …](http://t.co/2Je9B2znM5) [‪#ENGL7711](https://twitter.com/search?q=%23ENGL7711&src=hash)  [Expand](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14/status/319957639037612033)

* This tweet included the ESPN article that chronicled the University of Illinois’ Chief Illiniwek’s last dance at an athletic event. The portrayal of the Indian chief sparked controversy and was finally done away with.

[**Ashley McFarlan** ‏‪@amcfarlan14‬](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14) [27 Feb](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14/status/306791723948986368)   Here is a little info on the Tuskegee Syphilis Study! I became interested while reading about HELA! [‪http://www.cdc.gov/tuskegee/timeline.htm …](http://t.co/hNlmA0uDGu) [‪#ENGL7711](https://twitter.com/search?q=%23ENGL7711&src=hash)  [Expand](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14/status/306791723948986368)

* This is the Tuskegee Syphilis study that was conducted in the past. It was responsible for many cruel, painful deaths in search of a timeline to discover more information about the disease. There were ways for the people within this study to be cured; however, doctors needed to find out more.

[**Ashley McFarlan** ‏‪@amcfarlan14‬](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14) [16 Jan](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14/status/291675560181104641)   It's Human Trafficking Prevention Month, But Is Awareness Enough? [‪http://huff.to/11zxCaj](http://t.co/j2zXMTob) via [‪@HuffPostImpact](https://twitter.com/HuffPostImpact) Check out this article! [‪#ENGL7711](https://twitter.com/search?q=%23ENGL7711&src=hash)  [View summary](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14/status/291675560181104641)

* This is the Huffington Post Article about January being declared Human Trafficking and Slavery Awareness Month. It is a shame that something like this has to exist but I am uncertain how much is changing because of it!

[**Ashley McFarlan** ‏‪@amcfarlan14‬](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14) [16 Jan](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14/status/291674366398300160)   I Read Sold by Patricia McCormick and after researching a bit I discovered that this month is Human Trafficking Awareness Month! [‪#ENGL7711](https://twitter.com/search?q=%23ENGL7711&src=hash)  [Expand](https://twitter.com/amcfarlan14/status/291674366398300160)

* This was the first literary tweet that I had for the semester. I was really engaged after reading *Sold* and I wanted to find out more about Human Trafficking. It was then that I became aware that January was a month dedicated to awareness. I am concerned about how much this is being pushed because I was absolutely unaware!