

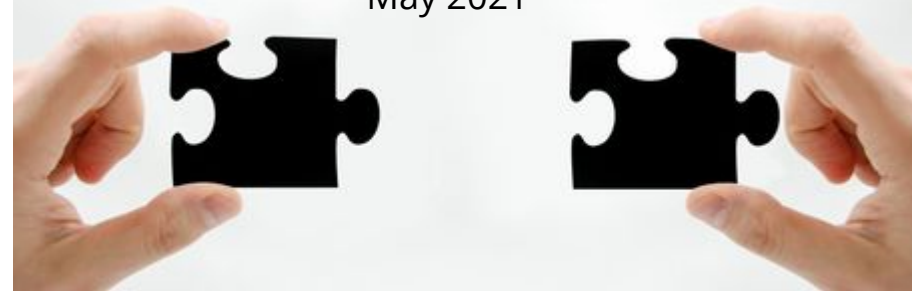


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**The Joy of Language (and) Art:
Creative Responses to
Kwame Alexander's *The Crossover***

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Class 9d
Gymnasium am Römerkastell Alzey
May 2021



Preface

For learners, to read a book in a foreign language is one challenge. To write a book is another, much more sophisticated one. Dear students of class 9d! It has been an extremely unusual and challenging school year, and I'm sure you can use some boost of energy. All of you have put different amounts of time, skill and effort into showing your understanding and appreciation of Kwame Alexander's highly accessible and fascinating verse novel *The Crossover*. May this collection of your works remind you of your talents and may you enjoy flipping through these pages as much as I enjoyed compiling them.

Thank you very much, class 9d, for supporting this project so passionately and, in doing so, for making school life in these chaotic and often stressful days more enjoyable.

B. Rosmarink

A Letter to Kwame Alexander



Dear Kwame Alexander,

I have read your book *"The Crossover"* and would like to share my opinion and evaluation of the work.

First, I want to talk about the design. It's simple and discreet, but in my point of view it's good because I don't get distracted by conspicuous pictures. What I also like is the writing of the poems, which is basically written in the same form, but in certain spots quickly summarizes the content by means of large print or otherwise written words.

Next, I'm going to talk about the meaning and the content of the book. What I like about the content is that while you have a story that's easy to perceive, there is still a "message" in the background, which can be different for everyone. For me, the book shows that you should appreciate what you have and that you always should try to protect, love and support your family. But also, that you must go your own way and especially when you grow up you have to let go.

To sum up, I really like the idea of making a book out of poems, because I understood everything even with the short texts and enjoyed reading. Therefore, I was able to understand and sympathize with the feelings of the characters pretty well.

Yours faithfully,

M



To Kwame Alexan...

Mona's Version of *Cut*



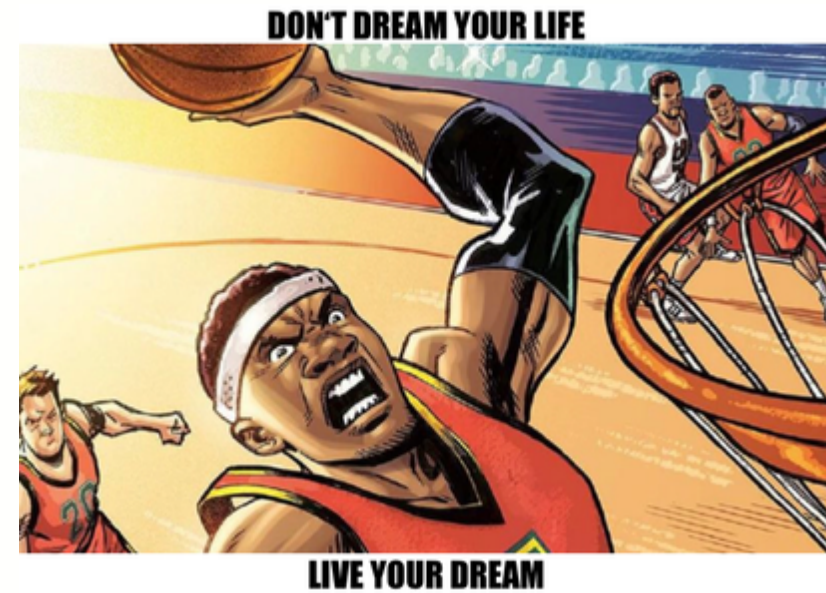
A Student Performance of *Dribbling*



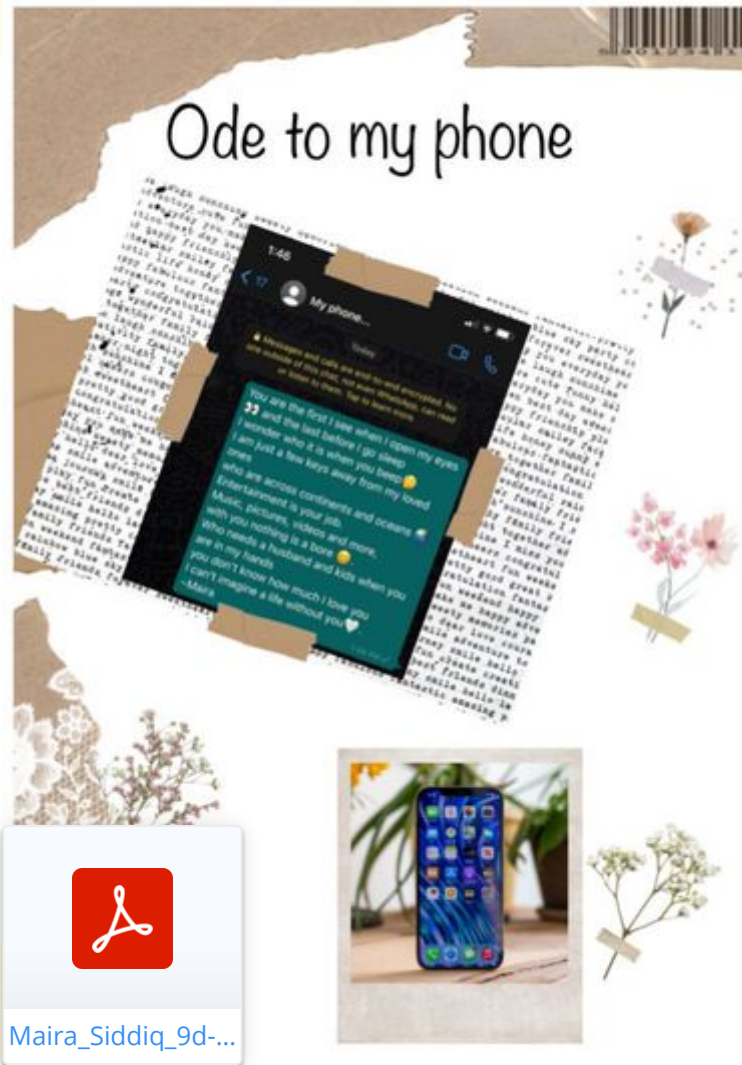
A Student Performance of *Fast Break*



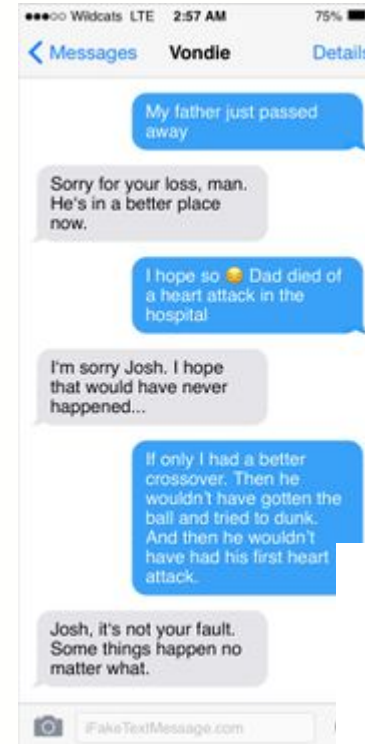
Marc's Meme of Motivation



Maira's Ode



A Word of Advice among Friends I



Maybe you are right.

His relatives have a backstory of such accidents. But there must have been some way we could have prevented that!

Did he have any other health problems?

Yeah, hypertension and patella tendinitis.

We can meet and talk more if you want. How about 5pm?

Nah. I need time for myself. You can help JB get over it, maybe.

Ok. When you need something tell me. I'm here

by Davide

The Creative Process

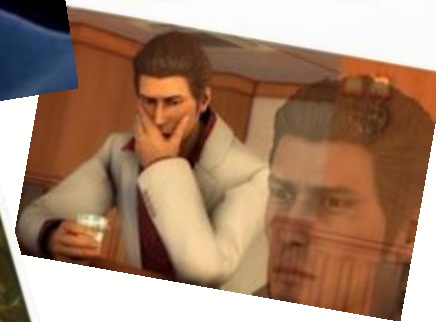


Rana's Selection of Memes

Josh trying not to snitch on JB in class:



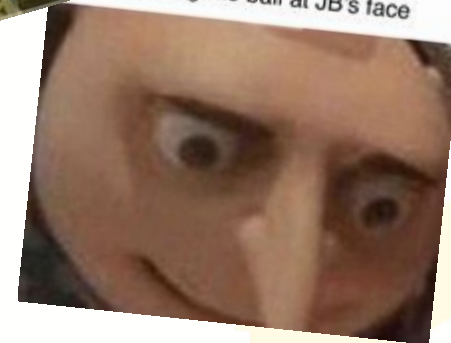
"No more Krispy Kreme!"
Mr. Bell:



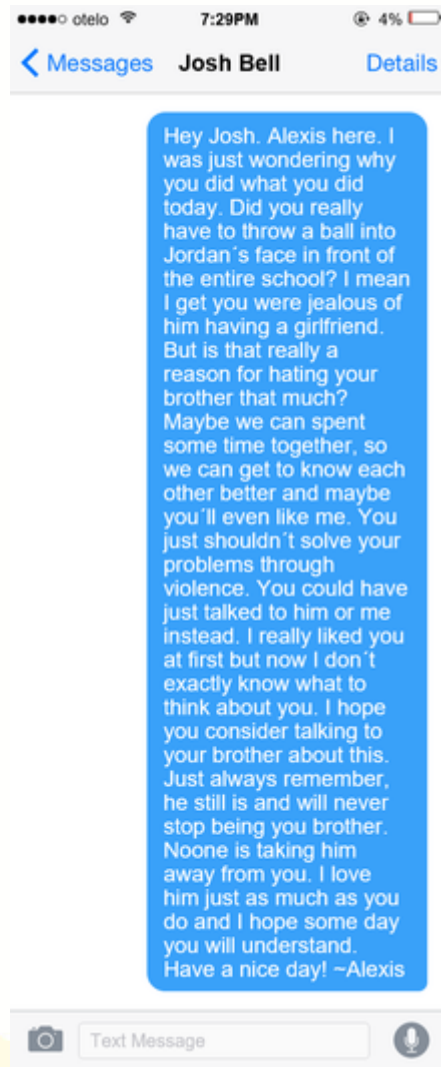
Josh listening to JB talking about Miss Sweet Tea being the apple of his eye:



Josh realising what he did after throwing the ball at JB's face



Lisa a.k.a Alexis Texts Josh



Hey Josh. Alexis here. I was just wondering why you did what you did today. Did you really have to throw a ball into Jordan's face in front of the entire school? I mean I get you were jealous of him having a girlfriend. But is that really a reason for hating your brother that much? Maybe we can spend some time together, so we can get to know each other better and maybe you'll even like me. You just shouldn't solve your problems through violence. You could have just talked to him or me instead. I really liked you at first but now I don't exactly know what to think about you. I hope you consider talking to your brother about this. Just always remember, he still is and will never stop being your brother. Noone is taking him away from you. I love him just as much as you do and I hope some day you will understand. Have a nice day! ~Alexis

Leon's Meme

**WILL JOSH TRY TO UNDERSTAND
THE BROTHER'S GIRLFRIEND...**

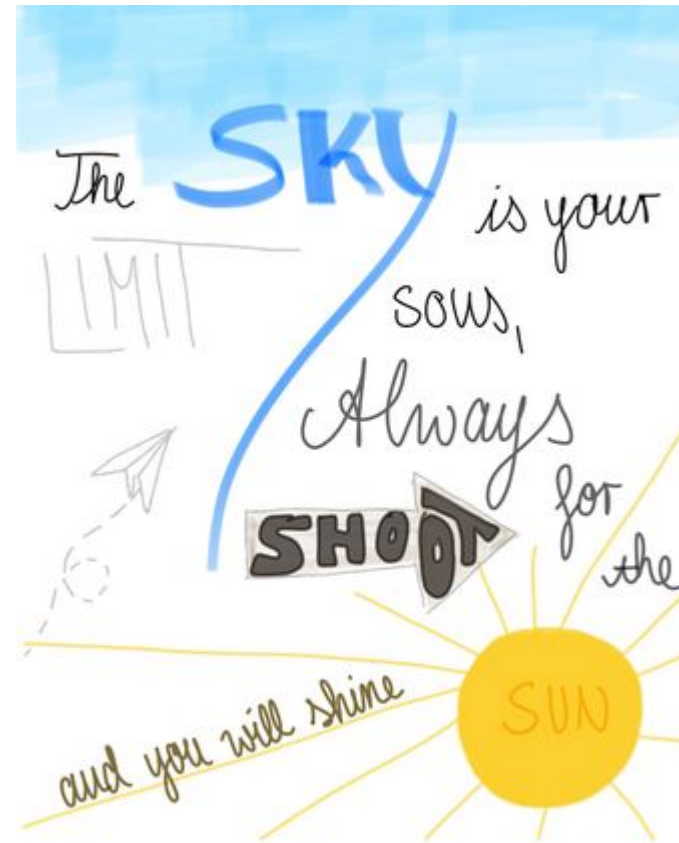


**OR WILL HE BE JEALOUS AND
BREAK JB'S NOSE?**

Quote Art Inspired Favourite Quotes

online 'Scrapbook'

For my online Scrapbook, I chose my 5 favourite Quotes from our book and I kind of designed them new, I wrote them down and edited them. I know it looks like I didn't spend a lot of time doing it but to be honest it was pretty difficult and time-consuming for me. I'm also not used to working with an Ipad. I'm still not really good, but I'm trying and learning.



BASKETBALL

RULE #5

when you



playing

your GAME

YOU'VE

ALREADY

LOST

SOMETIMES

THE

Things



that aren't said,

..... what

you

KILL



I knew **ONE** *day*
I'd need my own



to

fly

n. 31

WITHOUT

you

I am **EMPTY** the



GOAL

WITH
NO



An Ode to...? Guess!



Josh's Diary Entry about Miss Sweet Tea

Miss Sweet Tea

There is this new girl. We don't know her name but I think I got a crush on her. We named her Miss Sweet Tea.* I don't know if Josh likes Miss Tea too but I'll guess no. Anyway during the vocabulary test I gave Josh a note for Miss Sweet Tea. On that note I wrote if she wants to go on a date with me. Sadly the note got stuck because Josh had to dream. The teacher saw the note and luckily sent Josh to run. Josh did not say that I was the one who wrote the letter. He told me that run was a bit angry at him. The next day Josh talked to me but I was dreaming about Miss Sweet Tea and did not listen to Josh. To be honest I didn't listen to anybody this day. My thoughts were with Miss Sweet Tea.

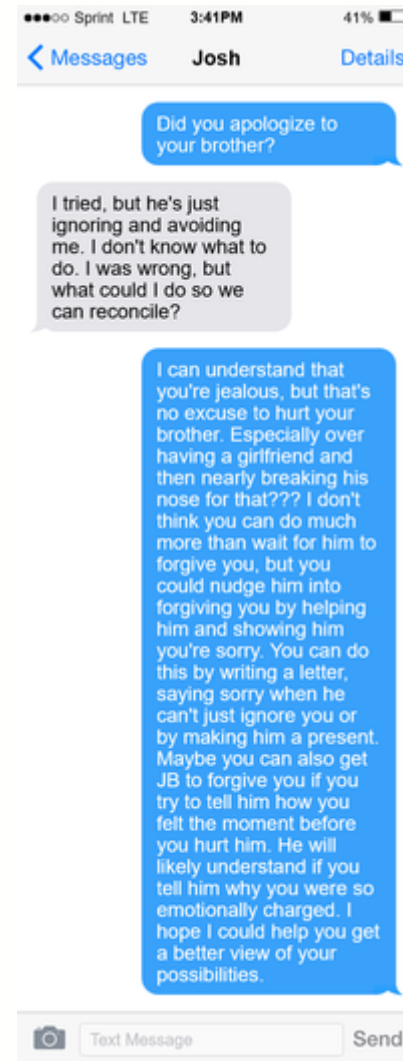
* We named her Miss Sweet Tea because she always drinks sweet tea.

by Fabian

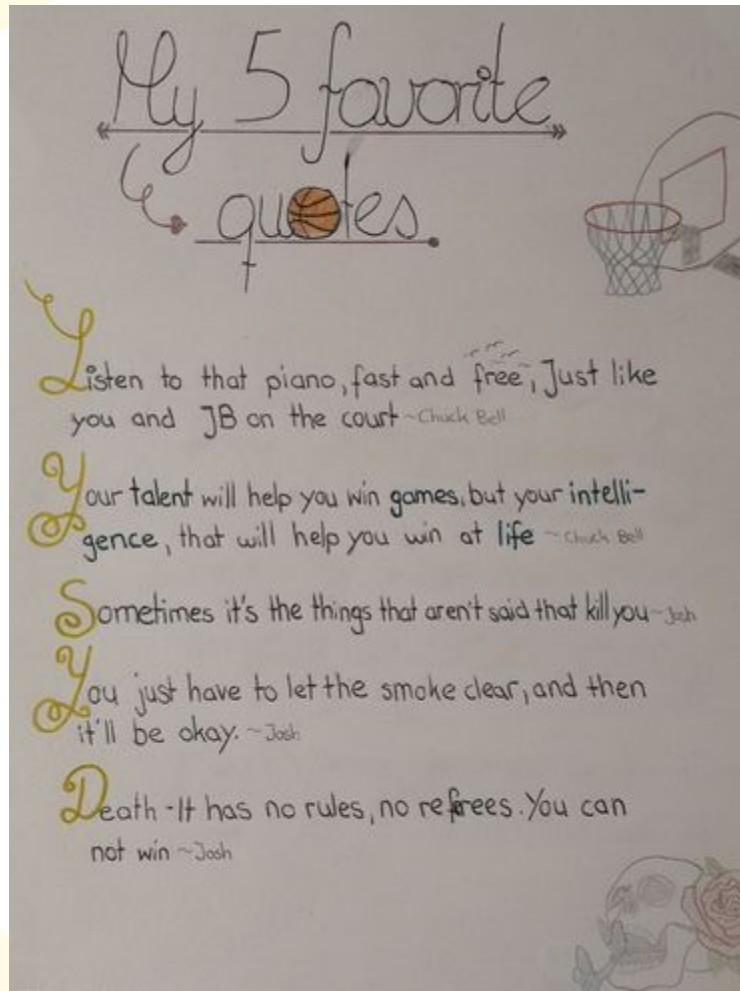
A Fan Page



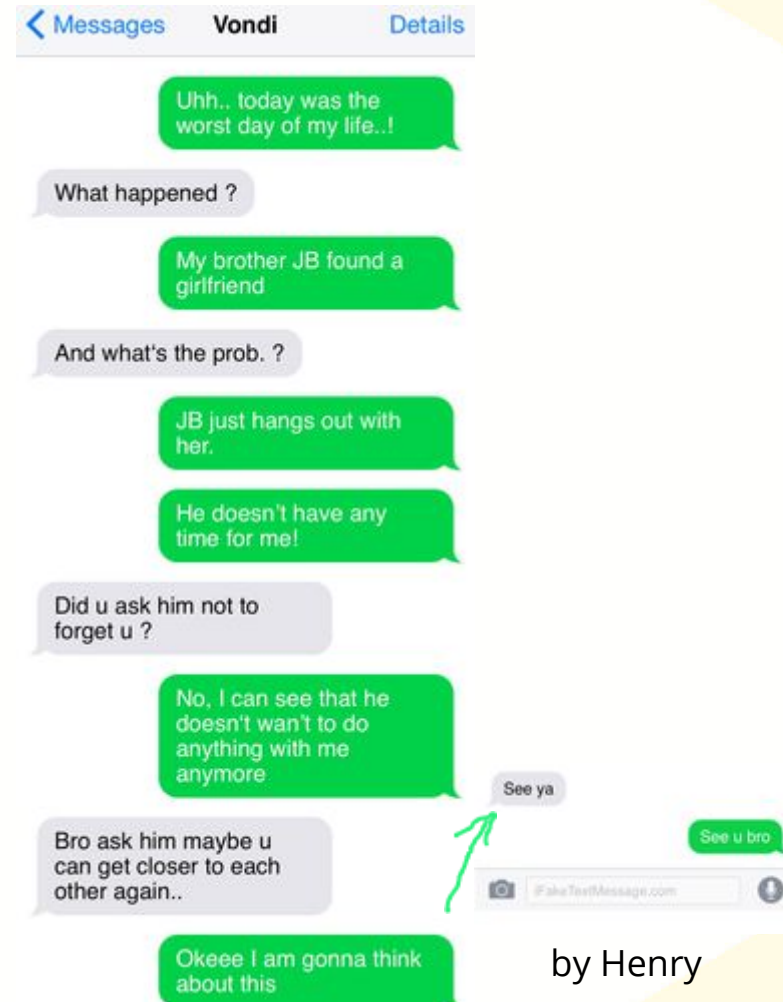
A Word of Advice among Friends II



Lina's Favorite Quotes



Advice on Coping with Jealousy



A Student Review of *The Crossover*

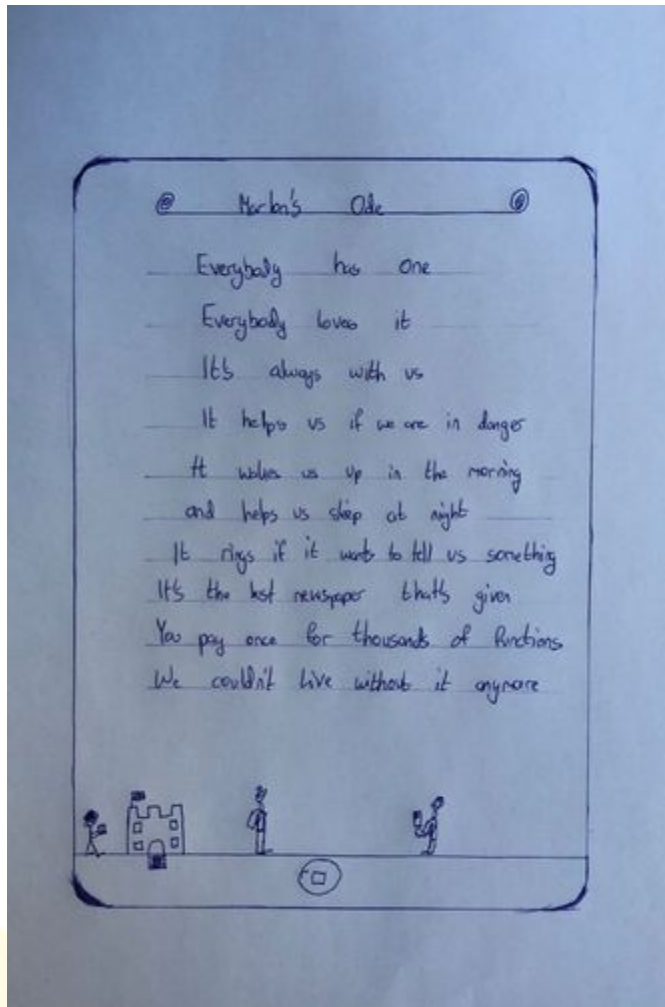
My impression of the book is very positive. I can identify with many of the things the author describes in the book, and everything is written in a very colorful way. The book *The Crossover* is one of the few books that make me laugh which I find amusing because my humor is special. What is also a cool fact that the book is written with different fonts that makes reading not so boring but rather exciting. After all, the book isn't just a normal book that tells some story, but much more a book that tells about issues that everyone has to deal with like love, death & war like. It describes how the different characters cope with these issues. In the whole, the book is a great book from which many people can learn many things. In my opinion, the book should get more attention.



David's Recording of *The Show*



An Ode to a Beloved Device



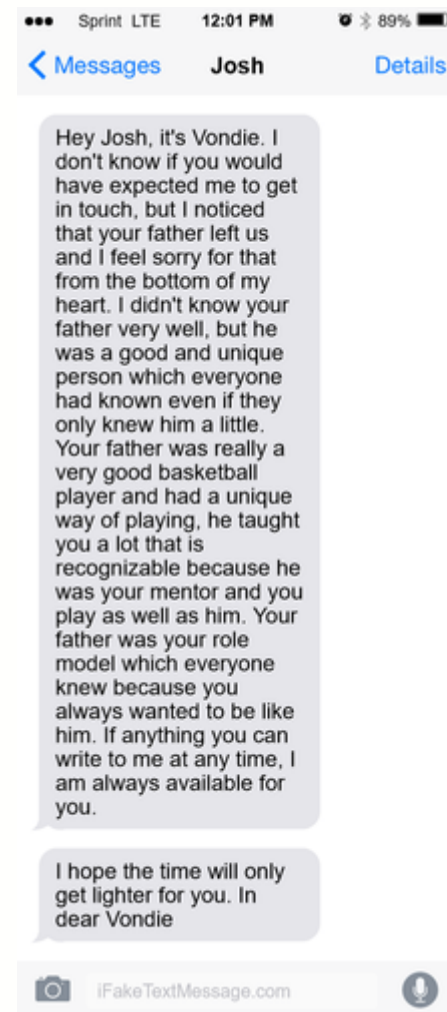
Moritz's Meme



Madlen's Ode to ... ? Guess!



Advice on Coping with Loss I



Max's Review of *The Crossover*



Dear Kwame Alexander,
I want to tell you my opinion about this awesome book "The Crossover"

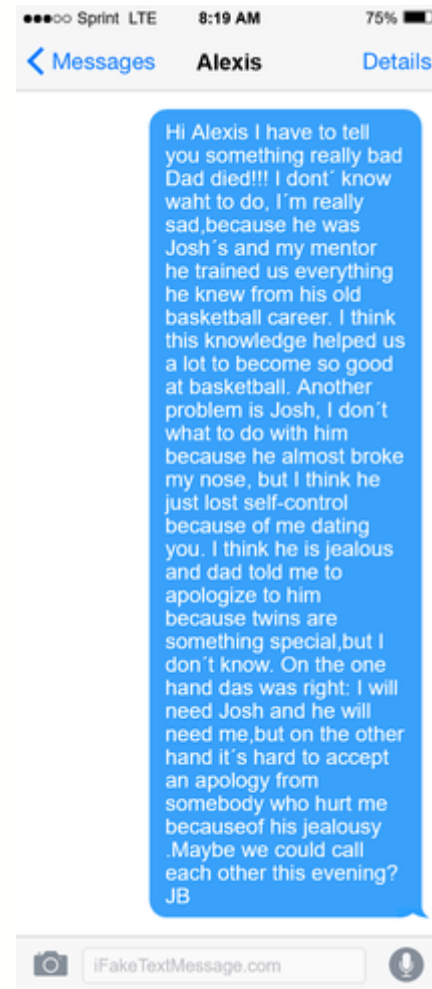
First of all, I like this book a lot because of the characters and especially the cool hood slang. You can also put yourself in the shoes of any person in every situation described in the course of the book. Furthermore, the characters are very interesting. To my mind, Josh was the best character because of his cool and likeable personality. But the best aspect of the book is that the story moves very fast and it's easy to understand. But in my opinion the end was a little bit too short because it was not told in detail. I think the book could also have 30 pages more. But all in all, "The Crossover" was a very interesting book which was exciting the whole time and I can recommend it to anyone, who wants to enjoy a fast, entertaining novel.

Thank you for reading!
Your Max



Max's Review.pdf

Advice on Coping with Loss II



by Pascal