FYS #1: One in Three
Structured Reflection #1
Due Monday, Oct. 4, at class-time

Writing Prompts:

Part One (REVISION of first journal assignment):
Cancer is a topic that has touched the lives of nearly all Americans in one way or another. When you considered you choices of FYS, what drew you to this seminar? What personal experiences have you had that would lead you to an interest in this course? What did you think this course would be about? What did you hope to gain from taking this course?

What do you know already about cancer survivors? What do you think the experience of a cancer survivor would be like?

Cite specific examples in your life to explain your view/conclusions. Reading with specific details is more interesting to read and more scientific.

Part Two:
At this point, we have completed Cancer Vixen and are nearly finished with The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks. Based on your reading, how is Marissa’s family similar to or different from yours? How is the Lacks family similar or different from yours?

Think about the support networks available to both Marissa and Henrietta (and Henritta’s children). As you think about the support networks presented in these books, reflect on your own support networks. What kind of support networks does your family have? What kinds of support networks do you think you will find useful in college? What kind of support do you hope to give others and to receive for yourself? Is any person an “island” to themselves?

You do not need to address every component of the prompts above to provide a coherent reflection on the topics. Certainly use a fluid narrative to respond (NOT a Q & A style of writing). If you have questions, ask. Do not exceed 3-4 pages total, ds.
NOTES: Both of these writing prompts worked well for the course. The Part One writing prompt was given on the first day of class as a “practice” prompt that was evaluated closely and given back to students so they could revise to re-submit along with Part Two later in the term (see notes in Practice Prompt for more info). The Part Two writing prompt worked really well because it connected course material directly with personal experience and allowed for deeper reflection on what we were studying and how we understand both Henrietta Lacks’s and Marissa Marchetto’s stories. The “Is any person an island to themselves” question came back again at the end of the term on the last structure reflection in the context of a completely different book and the writing was dramatically different (this was accidental on my part, and I just noticed it as I was writing up these notes for our Teagle study).