Senior Creative Writing – Essay #2: **due Wed 11/6**

Write 3 pages of creative nonfiction based on one of the exercises we’ll have done in class, and keep in mind the good writing habits practiced in all of them. They have been:

1. Smell
2. Scene/irritant
3. Family story from before you could remember (birth, parents’ meeting, etc.)
4. Ghost story (or angel, or devil, and only if you’ve seen one first-hand)
5. Family body part/gesture
6. Letter/hurt (this has, in my opinion, a high level of difficulty to do well—check with me in advance so we can agree on your plan to make it accessible to 3rd-party audience)
7. What lies have your parents or teachers told you (or untruths, or deceptions)? How do you feel about those now?
8. When have your eyes deceived you?
9. Recount an incident or event from your deep past in the *present tense*.
10. Object
11. Act of defiance
12. Scars
13. Mirror

Or, take up one of these topics:

1. Write about a theme in your life in 3 or more episodes. Look carefully at how Alexie does this throughout his memoir (and references it in chapter 71). Especially keep in mind good scene-making habits if you choose this topic.
2. Write about a silence. One you’ve imposed, sustained, and/or broken (see how Alexie manages this on pp. 85-90 and 93-94).
3. What other approach, angle or habit of Alexie’s do you think works especially well? Or, is there a theme he takes up that has particular relevance in your life? Once you’ve identified it, run it by me for approval and then try featuring it in your essay.