Senior Creative Writing – Creative Nonfiction Essay #3: **due Friday 12/6** (share doc with M. B by 10:55a)

Write 3 pages of creative nonfiction based on one of the exercises we’ve 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. Act of defiance
8. Object
9. Scars
10. Mirror
11. What lies have your parents or teachers told you (or untruths, or deceptions)? How do you feel about those now?
12. When have your eyes deceived you?
13. Recount an incident or event from your deep past in the *present tense*. **Let me know if you’d like to see a published model.**
14. 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. **O’Brien does this too in *TTC*.**
15. Write about a silence. One you’ve imposed, sustained, and/or broken (see how Alexie manages this on pp. 85-90 and 93-94).
16. 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. **Same for O’Brien.**
17. **Photo response**
18. **What do you carry?**
19. **Response/allusion to music** (remember the “braided essay” possibility if the song has lyrics)
20. **2 sentences** (obviously this still has to be 3 pages, but you can use the 2-sentence exercise as a start—make sure it’s a hard pivot)

Use a prompt you haven’t already used for an essay. Let me know if you’d like a reminder of the complete instructions for any of these prompts you’re considering.