**Directions:** For the purposes of this assignment, a psychological profile of a character is a list and explanation of the various factors that affect a character's motivation and decision making throughout the course of the novel.

1. To begin the psychological profile activity, consider these questions:

   - What specific factors influenced Isabel and/or Amari throughout the novel?
   - What specific factors must a reader look at to understand why characters act specific ways?

2. The factors that can make up a character's psychological profile include: family, emotions, historical events, interactions with a specific environment, physical traits, social influences, religion, etc. Decide on the 3 most influential factors for each of the characters and for yourself.

3. For each factor look for:
   a) evidence of the factor's influence (paragraph explaining why you chose the specific factor and how this factor was influential for the character during the course of the novel)
   b) a quote to support or illustrate each factor (a quote for each factor that best exemplifies this actor's influence on the life of a character ), and
   c) symbol that represents how this character manifests this factor (you can use free online clip art, hand drawn picture or pictures from magazines for the visual component) with a paragraph regarding the significance of the symbol and its relation to the factor. Feel free to use this website for symbolism in literature [http://www.umich.edu/~umfandsf/symbolismproject/symbolism.html](http://www.umich.edu/~umfandsf/symbolismproject/symbolism.html).
EXAMPLE of the influence of family on a character’s decision making.

Character: Boo Radley from Harper Lee’s *To Kill a Mockingbird*
Factor: Family
Evidence: In the opening chapters of *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Boo Radley is described through gossip and rumors. Many people speculate about his nature and deem him scary and creepy. However, we later learn that Boo’s character was dramatically affected by his family. Ever since he was a teenager, he has been distrusted by his family. When he was younger he, along with other friends, locked an elderly official in a court bathroom. While his other friends were sent away to school, Boo’s father decided it was best to lock Boo in the basement and prevent him from interacting with others. It is evident that his brother Nathan, Boo’s guardian when the novel takes place, also distrusts Boo. This is apparent when Nathan fills the knot hole in the oak tree that Boo would leave presents for the Finch children. Thus, the isolation created for Boo by his family affects why Boo behaved certain ways and why he was considered “creepy” by others.

Evidence from the book: “ ‘Do you think they’re true, all those things they say about B- Mr. Radley?’... ‘No child,’ she said, ‘that is a sad house. I remember Arthur Radley when he was a boy. He always spoke nicely to me, no matter what folks said he did. Spoke as nicely as he knew how’ ” (Lee 45-46).

This quotation demonstrates that Boo’s family life impacted his actions. In *To Kill a Mockingbird*, it is evident that Mr. Radley and Boo did not have a positive relationship. So, Boo’s socially awkward actions may be partially attributed to his poor relationship with his father.
Symbol: A Mockingbird
A Mockingbird symbolizes Boo’s family life and relationships with others. Throughout the novel, the mockingbird symbolizes innocence. The Dictionary of Symbols also suggests that birds symbolize humans who try to leave the confines of earth. In many ways, Boo, as a result of the treatment of his family, tries to live apart from others, and in doing so, can be said to live a purer, more heavenly life than others. Boo seems transcendent of the hatred, prejudice, and injustice that plagues other characters in the novel and his own family.